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108 Maidens of Destiny - Chapter 01-23

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108 Maidens of Destiny: Chapter 1 – I am your Woman

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Chapter 1 – I am your Woman

- TL: AmeryEdge
- Editors: LtBeefy, SpiderHack, Istaripanda & The NovelUpdates forum

Racing through a lightning storm shining with infinite rays of lights.

Sitting inside the cockpit, Shu Jing witnessed a scene that left him stunned.

All over the sky above him, the stars themselves seemed a fingertip away. A radiant dazzling star's light envelop him in a galaxy of images, each one unique in its own way. Visions of divinely bewitching girls appeared as they paused and gazed at him unceasingly, eyes full of never-ending resentment, with overwhelming heroic spirit, with gentleness like jade, with peerless gracefulness...

Indescribably beautiful feelings well up as Shu Jing completely lost his ability to comprehend language.

Shu Jing, the Republic's youngest Air Force military major, turned 21 years old this year. He was the country's most outstanding young ace pilot, and his job was to test fly the latest fourth generation fighter aircraft, the J14 Peregrine Falcon.

This time, the exercise was especially important, as both the Chairman of the Central Military and the Army General would be

personally attending the event. Shu Jing was completely focused and did not dare to falter.

Just as Shu Jing engaged supersonic speed at a height of 10,000 metres above sea level, a bright storm cloud came out of nowhere and enveloped the entire aircraft. After passing through the lightning storm, he encountered the beautiful scene that caused him to almost lose his mind.

A streak of starlight shot towards Shu Jing's body. His head felt like it was about to split apart, jolting him awake with fear.

Countless illusions poured through him. The fuzzy fantastical scene finally ended.

“Headquarters! This is Falcon 00, there is an abnormal situation!”

Shu Jing gritted his teeth. He endured the pain he was suffering while attempting to transmit an emergency report to the control center on the ground.

The communication system remained silent...

Following that, Shu Jing was surprised to discover that all the electronic systems on the aircraft were completely out-of-order.

The temperature inside the aircraft began to slowly climb. Shu Jing felt like he was inside a furnace.

“J14-00 losing control, pilot Shu Jing is requesting permission to use the parachute!”.

Shu Jing issued the emergency request as beads of sweat slide down his forehead.

Damn it!

Shu Jing quietly cursed.

“J14-00 losing control, pilot Shu Jing requesting permission to use the parachute!”

“...”

“J14-00 losing control, pilot Shu Jing requesting permission to use the parachute!”

“...”

“J14-00 losing ... thank you for the country’s contribution, I’m jumping!”

Liangshan Continent.

Thousand Mount Kingdom, Clear Wilderness Highland.

Smoke and dust billowed upwards as horses gallops across the grassland.

A cavalry squad made up of 60 soldiers were thunderously howling while aggressively pursuing a target, their demeanors gleeful and proud.

The prey they were currently chasing was not a wild wolf nor a deer, but a 17 or 18-year-old girl.

This young girl was running as swift as the wind, even faster in comparison to the horses chasing her.

But of course, there were limits to her endurance. After a few minutes, her pace slowed down. The cavalry took this chance to split up and surround her.

A young man wearing a white robe came forward on horseback and snickered, “Beauty, you should obediently become my Star Knight. Do you think the Clear Wilderness Castle’s young master would mistreat you?”

The girl looked up, her chest puffed outward. Even though she was surrounded by the cavalry, her expression remained composed. Her courageous eyes looked at him with a hint of disdain, “You think you have the qualifications?”

“Ha ha, rumours about the Star Knights’ arrogance are definitely true. In order to make a contract, aside from making you willingly submit, one can only beat you half to death.” The white-robed young man laughed loudly while raising his whip. “Brothers, let her have a little taste of the Clear Wilderness Castle calvary’s power.”

The grassland resounded with excited roars.

Over fifty cavalryman armed with spears, lances and sabres leapt forward on horseback.

The girl’s expression remained unchanged except for a slight smile full of contempt, “You all wish to die that badly? Fine!”. Her hands curled around the empty air and a shining frosty spear instantly appeared in her grip.

The spear shot forward while emitting a fierce killing intent, piercing its way through from armour to armour.

Before anyone noticed what was happening, the first two soldiers at the front already lost their heads.

KILL!

The remaining members of the squad became enraged when they saw this.

The shining spear continued to lunge forward mercilessly. An armoured soldier who had just raised his own spear suddenly discovered a massive hole in his own chest. The girl didn’t try to retrieve her spear; on the contrary, she used the momentum as leverage to jump forwards and forced the spear to swipe in an arc.

The only thing heard was the sound of metal breaking apart before ten decapitated heads flew high up into the sky.

The soldiers from behind were struck with terror, their arms wildly swinging their weapons.

The young girl’s movements were extremely fast and her killing was swift and decisive, causing everyone’s face to pale in fear. She casually slaughtered her way through the squad, easily avoiding

their attempt at catching her. The air in the surrounding area slowly became submerged in a fine red mist and horrified shrieks continuously echoes throughout the plain.

The originally confident white-robed youth's turned ashen pale.

Moments later, more than fifty cavalrymen turned into fifty unrecognisable mutilated corpses.

By the time the young girl shifted her cold eyes back towards the youth, he was already so scared he immediately planted his knees on the ground.

“Please don’t!”

The tip of her spear stopped inches from his face. The young man, whose pants was already soaked, became even wetter as he lost control of his bowels.

“You want to become my Master with this pathetic appearance?”

The girl laughed refreshingly.

Even though it had taken over fifty lives, the spear on her hand did not show a single trace of blood.

“Arctic Star Serpent Spear?!”.

The youth gave a frightened squeak when he recognised the spear.

“You are Majestic Star “Panther Head” Lin Chong!”.

“Now do you know who I am?” The girl slightly flexed the spear on her hand while sneering. “A man worthy of my submission does not exist in this world!”

“Yes... Yes! This doggy servant has eyes but did not see, I sincerely beg Big Sister Lin to spare my small life.” The young man was trembling as he spoke while lamenting in his heart — Heavens, this young girl was actually the Majestic Star, no wonder she was so swift and fierce. Legends says Panther Head was very quick-tempered and arrogant, until this day no one has been able to sign a

contract with her. He could only blame his bad luck for provoking this demon in sheep's clothing.

"Looking at your lack of self-control is quite sickening, let me lend you some help."

Lin Chong sneered, a spear slashing downward.

The youth could only feel a strange chilly sensation on his soaked underwear before suddenly bursts of red warm blood explode outward from his crotch, causing him to shriek like a slaughtered pig.

He was castrated!

"Get out of my sight."

With her serpent spear from view, the girl wiped her mouth and left, not bothering to waste any more time on this useless trash.

The youth did not dare to say anything else. Instead, he was thankful to his ancestors for being able to keep his little life after encountering this monster. He swallowed the pain and climbed on his horse, whipping it to head back to the fortress, continually cursing Lin Chong from the bottom of his heart.

Next to a creek in Clear Wilderness Mountain.

The girl untied a ribbon causing her hair to come loose. The ribbon took with her clothes along as it fell, revealing a delicate and supple body figure, the mounds on her chest perky and full. She stepped into the refreshingly cool water to wash off the blood. If any man dared to peek at her right now, she would mercilessly turn them into women.

After washing herself for a little while, a loud bang suddenly came from the sky.

She looked up and saw a huge fireball breaking through the clouds at a breakneck pace, heading directly towards the creek she was

standing in.

Her expression quickly changed. She attempted to grab her clothes and jump out of the water, but she was a step too late. The fireball's speed was unimaginably fast, within a blink of an eye it had grown several times bigger, loudly crashing down.

A thunderous explosion resounded!

Flames covered the sky.

Several miles away, Shu Jing was using his multipurpose knife to cut off the parachute ropes.

“Well, there goes my hard-earned reputation.” Shu Jing sat on the grass and looked at the distant smoke column rising while sighing deeply. As the number one ace pilot of his country, he crash landed the latest aircraft J14 in its very first official flight. Truly, it will be quite difficult to look others in the eyes for a long time.

After he checked and discovered no problematic injuries on his body, he stood up to investigate the surrounding, unable to suppress a strange feeling welling inside his heart.

This exercise was done at a top-secret airbase, not in the current grassland where he was at. Did the J14 flew so fast in its supersonic mode it had already traveled out of bounds? Although he was still puzzled, Shu Jing was too lazy to question it any further. The most important thing right now was to head towards the crash site.

Shu Jing quickly made his way to a valley. In front of him was a painful scene.

Fourth generation Fighter Aircraft J14 – the pride and joy of his country, currently looked like it was run over by a bulldozer. It was completely smashed into pieces.

As Shu Jing wandered around the site, he suddenly caught sight of

a nearby young woman's petite figure passing out on the creek. His heart jumped and silently cursed. The Air Force had a very serious policy. If a mechanical failure happens while flying in residential zones, the pilot was forbidden from abandoning the plane. Even though he was the so-called ace, he would also be heavily reprimanded if harm comes to civilians.

He quickly ran over and brought the girl to shore.

It looks like the girl was having a bath, her whole body was soaked with a piece of gown barely hanging onto her completely naked body. As Shu Jing lifted her up to bring her ashore, her gown parted and casually revealed a magnificent pair of towering peaks, causing Shu Jing's blood to boil. Luckily, as a soldier, he had undergone intense physical and mental training. Shu Jing was able to hold onto a piece of his judgement as he brought the girl to a flatbed of grass, and quickly cover her up with the gown.

The girl's face was only pale and her body showed no obvious wounds. She must have been knocked out by the pressure emitted during the impact, but unfortunately, she passed out inside the creek and she must have ended up drinking quite a lot of water.

Thinking of this, Shu Jing hurriedly held her in position and lifts up her cute little nose. He took a deep breath and knelt down to perform artificial respiration.

The moment their lips touched, Shu Jing suddenly felt a powerful suction force coming from inside the girl's body, locking his lips with hers tightly. Something damp and sweet smelling made its way towards his tongue, binding it while his skin grew red like it was on fire. Shu Jing discovered that shining on the girl's forehead was a dazzling star symbol, yet before he had the time to think about what it meant, his own forehead began burning with pain, as if somebody was carving on it using the tip of a sword!

As his head felt like it was bursting apart, his body lost all strength and became tightly intertwined with the girl's own. Everything became hazy. Briefly, before losing consciousness, he witnessed a blinding ray of starlight radiating outwards from inside her...

Beneath the night sky, a crimson star shone brightly.

Birds chirped as the flower's fragrance spread through the morning breeze.

Shu Jing slowly woke up. He felt like he was lying on a soft, strange substance, akin to a high-end mattress. He unintentionally gave it a squeeze.

A small moan coming from below was like a bucket of water thrown at his head, causing Shu Jing to hastily open his eyes and notice he had been sleeping on top of a girl who had woken up from since who knows when. Her red face and embarrassed eyes were staring at his hands that were groping her chest.

Shu Jing's expression remained deadpan as he slowly climbed off the girl. He then solemnly asked: "Are you feeling well? I hope you didn't catch a cold because of what happened yesterday..."

"Hmph!"

The girl shot up and crouched down next to the creek, staring at her own reflection in a trance.

Seeing her panicked expression, Shu Jing guessed something far worse than he anticipated has happened.

The girl parted the hair on her forehead aside, lightly touching it and causing a bright Star Symbol to emerge. The girl's entire body trembled, her fist clenched so tightly the joints became deadly white her frosty eyes looking at the distance at the figure of the relaxing young man bathing in the river. He was currently singing: "When I joined the army, it was like..."

It actually sounded pretty good!

The girl shook her head, fiercely repelling the thoughts in her mind. It was all the fault of the man standing in front of her. The damn man who dared to lie on top of her pure body and took a nap overnight. He even, even....

Arctic Star Serpent Spear appeared out of thin air on her hand, killing intent intensely radiating from it.

A light suddenly flashed towards Shu Jing.

Shu Jing noticed the girl's abnormal behaviour, but by the time he took half a step back, the sharp spear tip had already found its way to his neck. The girl's speed was astoundingly fast.

The girl suddenly gritted her teeth and barked.

“Your servant is Majestic Star “Panther Head” Lin Chong, from this day forward I am your woman!”

Shu Jing was nearly choked to death.

PREVIOUS --

108 Maidens of Destiny: Chapter 2 – Star Masters and Star Knights

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Star Masters and Star Knights

- TL: AmeryEdge
- Editor: LtBeefy, Istaripanda

Shu Jing gulped down his saliva and cleared his nose. He nearly choked to death from the girl's loud declaration.

Wait. Majestic Star “Panther Head” Lin Chong? Did he mishear her?

“Can you repeat that?” Shu Jing asked after a little while.

“From now on, this servant is your woman.” Lin Chong blushed as she repeated each word angrily. If not because of the Star Knights’ oath, she would have already split this man, who was pretending to be oblivious, in half.

Shu Jing quickly clarified.

“No, what you said before that. Lin Chong?”

“That’s right, it is I, the Majestic Star “Panther Head” Lin Chong.” Lin Chong lowered her voice and retrieved the serpent spear.

Shu Jing massaged his throat as he stared at the strange girl in front of him.

“Cosplayer? Some of my comrades are also into those kinds of thing.” Shu Jing muttered.

“Master, what are you talking about?” Lin Chong frowned. Was her

master crazy or is he an idiot? He remained indifferent even after hearing her famous title.

“It was an unfortunate mistake this time. But well, even if I have to take responsibility for seeing you naked, it was worth it.” Shu Jing smiled lewdly. Looking closely at the girl in front of him, her brows were fine as leaf, eyes as brilliant as stars, her figure heroic. If she was placed in the ancient time she would definitely look the part of an army general.

“Master, please get to the real point.” Lin Chong coldly replied.

Seeing that she was not in a joking mood, Shu Jing also turned serious.

“Where is this? Are we in Inner Mongolia?”

“Clear Wilderness Highland in Thousand Mount Kingdom.” A chillingly cold reply came.

Clear Wilderness Highland? Thousand Mount Kingdom? These two places never existed throughout history as far as he could remember. Having a bad feeling, Shu Jing spat out almost incomprehensibly: “Year?”

“Star Sight year 975!”

What kind of crazy era is that?

“What kind of world is this?” Shu Jing clutched his head in pain.

“Liangshan Continent!” At this point, Lin Chong could no longer endure it and laughed coldly. “Master, all these simple questions can be answered by even toddlers. Do you take me as some sort of fool?”

Shu Jing look up at the sky, it was clearly daytime, and yet he could see over a hundred stars shining. Further in the distance, there was even a massive pillar cutting straight through the cloud from the sea standing nonchalantly, which was an impossibility in the world he knew.

Was he transported to another world?

Before Shu Jing did hear his friends joked about it but he would never imagine one day he himself would be in this situation.

“Lin Chong have yet to hear Master’s name.” Lin Chong asked.

“You can call me Shu Jing, no need for master this or that. Even though it sounds quite gratifying, the implications aren’t very appropriate. I am merely a soldier, Haha!”

“Even though Lin Chong does not enjoy your nonsensical talks, we have already signed a Star Duel Covenant. I will abandon my own prejudices.” Lin Chong spoke, conflicted.

“What is the Star Duel Covenant?” Shu Jing’s eyes were wide opened: “Is it something to do with Star Wars?”

Lin Chong’s face sank. She asked with a lowered voice: “Please don’t tell this servant Master isn’t aware of things like Star Masters and Star Maidens?”

Shu Jing spread his hands and shrugged — it was exactly as Lin Chong guessed.

Lin Chong bit her lips until it nearly bled. She was the famous Majestic Star Lin Chong! In the end, how did she end up contracting with an idiot who doesn’t even know anything? What kind of farce was this!

Seeing that this man still didn’t fully comprehend the gravity of the current situation, Lin Chong attempted to explain.

“Star Duel” was the most important event in Liangshan Continent. Every 108 years, 108 stars will appear along with their representative 108 maidens. Each maiden possessed powerful martial arts and abilities.

All Star Maidens are able to sign a Star Duel Covenant with a star cultivator. The contractor will then become their master for the rest of their lives. In Mount Liang Continent, a star cultivator is someone who possessed Star Energy.

When a star cultivator is contracted with a Star Knight, they become a Star Master, and they will head to Liangshan Maiden's Domain.

Why are Star Duel Covenants contracts made?

Of course for battles.

What do you fight for?

For your wish.

Legend says, once there is only one final star left in the sky, Liangshan Maiden will descend and grant the winner their wish.

“That’s the Liangshan Maiden’s Domain.” Lin Chong points toward the massive pillar in the distance that seems like it was holding up the very sky itself.

“But why must I follow the rules of some third rate novel plot and risk my life?” Shu Jing frowned and blurted.

Lin Chong was stunned. She had never questioned the meaning behind this ritual. But Lin Chong wasn’t going to admit to the idiotic man in front of her she actually had no idea. Instead, she glared at him: “Everybody has something they truly desire, does master not have something he wishes for?”

Shu Jing slowly realised something: “Yeah, it seems like I am just like everyone else.”

Perhaps to the Liangshan Maiden far in the distance, his wish to go home could also be called a desire?

Meanwhile at Clear Wilderness Castle.

Sobbing wails could be heard echoing across the entire castle. Even the inhabitants far outside the mansion could not help but frown from the tragic sound.

“I must kill that bitch! I will make her my slave and ruin her!”

Lying on his bed, a castrated young man viciously howled. He was the white-robed youth who previously suffered at Lin Chong’s hands, Clear Wilderness Castle Young Master.

Currently, his mother was comforting him with a face full of tears: “Ming-er, don’t worry, Mother will definitely make this right.”

Standing next to her, a man disagreed: “You reap what you sow! I already told him, even though the “Freezing Cloud Ice Crystal” was taken away, we must not pursue. Did he think it would be easy to make these heaven descended slayers submit to your will?”

The woman turned around and angrily rebuked: “Husband, what are you saying? Ming-er was beaten to this point by that vicious woman, as the lord of the castle, you still want to defend that she-demon?”

“Father, please help me seek justice!” The young man loudly wailed with tears streaming down his face.

“I heard when you sign a Star Duel Covenant with a Star Knight, it’s possible for the body to be reborn. For the sake of your lineage, you must bring that accursed fiend back here.” The woman sobs.

“Nonsense.” The man heartlessly scolded: ”That person is Majestic Star Lin Chong, how could Clear Wilderness Castle possibly have the means to oppose her?”

“Why must my son suffer such a terrible fate ahh.” Hearing this, the woman broke down and cried even louder.

“My Lord, there is a self-proclaimed Star Master named Xun Huo wanting an audience!” A servant reported from outside the room.

The woman immediately stopped crying and looked at him: “My Lord...”

How could the Castle Lord not understand what his wife meant? He laughed deeply: “The Star Master couldn’t have come at a better time!”

At the castle hall.

A young man around 23 years of age was currently sitting down drinking tea. His face was as white as pearl, stately and handsome, enhanced by his elegant green robe.

Serving him was a young girl wearing a long dress with a slender body. At a glance, one can tell she was no ordinary maid.

The Clear Wilderness Castle Lord was much more wary of the young lady in comparison to the man beside her.

Her silk dress was bright red and her hair was a shade of crimson. Her eyes were a deep shade of bloody vermillion, and each piercing glance from them invoking great fear.

“I thank Young Master Xun for gracing us with your visit. What I can do for you?” Clear Wilderness Castle Lord respectfully asked.

Xun Huo casually glanced over, sip tea and replied: “I heard your castle possesses a rare treasure called “Freezing Cloud Ice Crystal”. It just so happened I have a need for it. Set the price, I will pay it.”

Clear Wilderness Castle Lord gave a pained smile. “I’m afraid the Young Master will be disappointed.”

“You don’t want to sell?” The servant girl slammed the table, her voice overbearing with a hint of threat. The single slam caused cracks to appear all over the solid wooden desk.

Xun Huo lifted his hands, motioning the girl to calm down.

The castle lord bitterly explained: “I will not hide it from Young Master, not long ago a thief have come and stolen away the crystal. My son had then brought a squad of guards to pursue the thief, but who would have thought it would turn out to be a Star Knight. The entire squad was instantly wiped out, my son was luckily only sent back home castrated with an inch of life left.”

Xun Hou glanced at the girl and lightly nod. She immediately used

her Divine Intent to sweep the entire inner palace. She then smiled indecently. “Yes, he is indeed a eunuch.”

“Do you know which Star Maiden it was?” Xun Hou sips the tea while maintaining his aloof atmosphere.

“A small mistake already led to the death of dozens of our warriors, how could we have the time to identify the culprit?” The castle lord sighed.

Seeing Xun Hou in deep thought, the castle lord suddenly made a request: “If Young Master would take revenge for my son, Clear Wilderness Castle will be indebted.” Finished speaking, he signaled the servant with a look.

From outside a soldier brought in a chest. At a glance, one could see about one hundred gold taels was inside along with some precious jewelry.

“I was just about to set off to retrieve the ice crystal, now I will also lend you a hand by bringing her back here to be contracted.” A smile appeared on Xun Hou’s face as he spoke.

“My incompetent son cannot handle the matters of Star Masters, everything will be handed over to Young Master to manage.” The castle lord replied in panicked. He wasn’t an idiot, in these “Star Duels” Star Knights would be fighting each other on behalf of their masters. Was there any Star Master stupid enough to hand over a Star Knight to others to contract and create more enemies? What’s more, the person in question is Panther Head Lin Chong, how could he make her submit?

“I will order the cavalry to follow and support Young Master.”

“No need, all I require is a horse, bringing more people will just get in my way.” Xun Hou pursed his lips and swung his arms, causing the chest of gold to instantly disappear.

“I will immediately send the orders. Quickly, prepare the fastest horse for Xun Young Master!” The castle lord loudly exclaimed.

108 Maidens of Destiny: Chapter 3 – Deviance Star “Red Haired Devil”

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CHAPTER 3: Deviance Star “Red Haired Devil”

- TL: AmeryEdge
- Editor: LtBeefy, Istaripanda

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The grassland was beautiful during night time.

The Milky Way belt was like a ribbon stretched across the night sky with countless stars twinkling like gems. Among them, several were distinctively bright. These stars each had a halo of light, some of which glowed a deep red colour in contrast to the others.

“Yingmei, are those strange stars the 108 Destiny Stars you spoke about?” Shu Jing looked up at the sky while feeling a deep sense of awe and admiration.

By the way, the girl’s real name was Lin Yingmei. Lin Chong was actually just her combat title. This definitely brought Shu Jing, who was familiar with Water Margin, some consolation. At least he doesn’t need to constantly call out Lin Chong Lin Chong...

Leaning against a rock, Lin Yingmei furrowed her brows. She was not in the mood to answer his dumb questions.

“Yingmei, what is the meaning of those red stars?”

Shu Jing was endlessly curious about this world, and was unfazed by Lin Yingmei’s dismissive attitude.

“Those stars are called Crimson Stars, they represent the stars that

have successfully signed a Star Duel Covenant contract.” Whilst looking with her half-closed eyes, she replied quietly.

Shu Jing silently counted at least thirty stars were red.

“Which Crimson Star is ours?”

Shu Jing asked.

Lin Yingmei looked up and searched seriously for a moment, and then awkwardly coughed. She actually had no idea which one it was.

“According to what you told me, the Star Duel began over a year ago. By now only some thirty contracts have been signed. The efficiency seems to be quite bad.”

“Master, you need to know that these contracts are very serious matters!”

Lin Yingmei frowned at Shu Jing’s nonchalant tone. As if Star Duels Covenants were commonplace occurrences.

In reality, these Star Maidens adopt a very long term outlook when choosing their Star Master. These matters pertain to the fate of their entire lives, of course they wouldn’t treat it lightly.

The most powerful cultivators were the most popular, followed by cultivators possessing formidable weapons or martial arts, some were also chosen for their innate potential. That’s why there was a saying in Mount Liang Continent: “In order to contract with a Star Maiden, one must first conquer her.”

Of course, there were also cases of Star Maidens falling in love and contracting with common ordinary people, but the chance of this happening was truly small. What’s more, at the end of every Star Duel, these couples were the ones most likely to prematurely perished together.

Hearing this, Shu Jing sighed. These Star Maidens are also quite realistic.

“Are you are afraid I will drag you down?” Shu Jing frowned: “Is it possible to annul the contract?”

Lin Ying suddenly opened her eyes and looked strangely at Shu Jing: “Master, what are you talking about?”

“If Star Masters are so important to Star Knights, since I don’t know anything, I am not able to be of any help to you. Annulling the contract is also no big deal to me.” Shu Jing honestly replied. He originally came from the modern world, these types of whatever contracts did not really hold any appeal to him.

However, to Lin Yingmei, Shu Jing’s words set off a monstrous storm brewing within her heart. Mount Liang Continent was filled with countless star cultivators who would shamelessly employ any method or scheme to sign a contract with a Star Maiden.

To be able to contract with the Majestic Star Lin Chong was something these star cultivators can only dream of.

Seeing Shu Jing speaking sincerely without a trace of deceit, Lin Yingmei’s cold expression became slightly warmer. However, her tone remained stern:

“Master, you are insulting this Lin Chong, contracts are matters of fate. For the rest of my life, I will devote myself to protecting you, even to death!”

“Your words makes me so emotional, I can’t even stand up!” For better or worse, Shu Jing was still an Air Force military major. Cowering behind a girl wasn’t exactly what he wanted. “It’s better if you teach me how to protect myself.”

Lin Yingmei gently nodded at his words. Even though Yingmei had more than once regretted the fact she had signed a contract with this strange man, her master didn’t seem to be so useless. Maybe one day he could grow to truly take control of her, the Majestic Star.

“Your servant understands!”

A galloping white horse suddenly stopped. A young man sitting on the horse looked toward the rolling hills in the distance, his eyes concealing mysterious thoughts. Sitting behind him, the red-haired girl sneered:

“The traces are still fresh, they shouldn’t be too far away”.

“Qing-er, which star do think this Star Knight belongs to?”

Xun Hou wondered.

“No matter what star she belongs to, I will burn her up to the point where even her ashes won’t remain.”

The girl said in a haughty tone.

“Could Master be scared?”

Xun Hou replied with disdain: “Something seems abnormal. Why would a Star Knight loudly announce their appearance at Clear Wilderness Highland? The Star Duels have begun, all the weak Star Knights should be keeping a low profile while enhancing their strength.”

“Master think this Star Knight is possibly a Heavenly Spirit?”

Qing-er smiled cruelly:

“If so it would be even better, absorbing a Heaven Spirit would benefit Master’s Star Energy greatly.”

“Just to be on the cautious side, immediately use the Phoenix Step Tactics when we meet them and don’t waste time with words.”

“Ha Ha Ha”

The red haired girl laughed loudly in reply.

After traversing the flat plains of Clear Wilderness Highlands for 10 days straight, Shu Jing and Lin Yingmei were finally able to see a

set of rolling hills creeping like dragons lying in wait. The mountain had a specialty called “Giant Iron Trees”. These trees were as solid as steel, and they covered the entire hill like armour. This made Shu Jing feel like the mountain was an impenetrable fortress. This was definitely the Unyielding Wall Mountain – one of the five great mountains of Liangshan Continent.

Lin Yingmei had come to the Clear Wilderness Highland with the goal of finding “Relic Blade Sand”. This material, when used to forge weapons, would greatly enhance the weapon’s toughness and strength. Even though the surprising incident of the signed contract happened on the way here, Shu Jing, who didn’t have any real plans due to having only just arrived at Liangshan Continent, was more than happy to just accompany her on her journey.

Just as they were prepared to ascend the mountain, a massive fireball screeched towards them.

Shu Jing quickly gathered his Star Energy on his finger and shot out a blue streak of light, blocking the fireball.

“Finding you two was definitely not easy”.

A man and woman stood in their way, blocking the path.

Basing on the fluctuations of the Star Energy, the man was definitely not simple, his Star Energy was at least at the Late Stardust stage. These past few days, Shu Jing also gained a deeper understanding of star cultivators, Star Masters and their powers. The capability of Star Masters could be divided into these stages: Stardust, Nebula, Galaxy, Stellar, Oblivion and Annihilation.

The bigger a person’s Star Energy’s reserve, the more advantage they would have in a battle.

Right now Shu Jing’s Star Energy was only at Early Stardust Stage.

“Do we know you?”

Shu Jing carefully asked.

Xun Hou glanced at Lin Yingmei and attempted to evaluate her.

However, a startled feeling welled up in his heart when he was unable to see through her strength.

The red-haired girl ferociously spoke:

“Who could imagine it really was a contracted Star Knight. Great, killing you now would save us later.”

“I don’t want to fight with little sister.”

Lin Yingmei casually said.

“Who’s your little sister?”

The girl shouted, her entire body releasing a crimson aura, with red lights appearing from both her hair and eyes. On her forehead, a Star Symbol appeared, while a dark red sabre suddenly materialized in her hands.

The sabre split into nine parts, each part connected to another.

Blaze Refining Nine Prison Sabre!

“Deviance Star “Red-Haired Devil”?”

Lin Yingmei frowned.

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108 Maidens of Destiny: Chapter 4 – The Silver Blade Reversal

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CHAPTER 4 – The Silver Blade Reversal

- TL: AmeryEdge
- Editors: LtBeefy, Istaripanda

“Don’t be scared, being afraid won’t help you now.” The girl laughed lightly. Her eyes turned toward Xun Hou, waiting for his commands. “Master?!”

Xun Hou still held some lingering fear towards Lin Yingmei’s unusual calmness, but there was no room for hesitation. Sooner or later Star Knights would have to fight to the death, and this was a wonderful chance since the enemy was still newly contracted and had not yet reached a harmonious connection. Taking advantage of this chance would be for the best.

Xun Hou nodded.

“Red-Haired Devil” Liu Tang revealed a devilish smile. She raised her Blaze Refining Nine Hell Sabre, aimed at Lin Yingmei and slashed downward.

The blade shot out a scorching fireball, brightening the surrounding area.

Clang clang!!

Torrents of freezing air burst out in retaliation.

Before Liu Tang’s first sabre attack could even reach her, Lin

Yingmei instantly accessed her Star Knight mode, her forehead shining with the star symbol. Quickly stepping forward, her spear was like a venomous snake swallowing Liu Tang's fireball.

Icy killing intent overwhelmed Liu Tang like a tidal wave.

She quickly shifted to a defensive stance and her movement slowed, lacking the strength and clarity it previously had.

Lin Yingmei who was on the offensive suddenly stopped and changed her technique.

A cold blue light shot out in a strange arc, sometimes straight and sometimes curving, heading towards the Red Haired Devil.

A loud blast reverberated throughout the mountain.

Lin Yingmei's curving light collided with an emerald ring that came from the third person who entered the battle. Lin Yingmei would indeed have to risk facing two people at once.

This third person was, of course, Xun Hou.

During this time, Deviance Star Liu Tang had already retreated to a safe distance.

Lin Yingmei gave chase, but Xun Hou's true aim was to only distract her away from Shu Jing. When the timing was right, the emerald ring suddenly changed direction and headed directly towards Shu Jing.

Lin Yingmei leapt from her spot.

In a blink of an eye, she was in front of Shu Jing. With a single slash, she pushed the emerald ring to fall back.

“Lin Chong, it turns out you are Lin Chong!!” Deviance Star (Liu Tang) Liu Qing shouted in surprise.

Xun Hou expression changed, unbelieving. He stared deeply at Lin Yingmei.

“Qing-er, you must be wrong, what kind of person is Panther Head Lin Chong? Why would she contract with such a useless Star Master? Maybe she is in love with him?”

Being evaluated as useless by the enemy made Shu Jing feel frustrated from the bottom of this heart, but he simply couldn’t refute their words.

He had been in this world for only ten days. Don’t mention Artifacts like the one Xun Hou just used to attack Lin Yingmei, Shu Jing didn’t even have any martial arts or sword arts. Even though he was currently a star cultivator, he could only stand by and watch Lin Yingmei fight for him.

“Master, this is the truth, that spear is the Arctic Star Serpent Spear, and she is Lin Chong descended!” Liu Qing smiled cruelly.

“If that is so, we can only take care of the Star Master first!”

Xun Hou said with no hesitation.

Based on his strength, they didn’t need to worry about Shu Jing, and as long as they were able to hurt him Lin Chong’s soul would also be affected heavily. After that, even if she tried to resist she would not be able to hold on for long.

Killing Lin Chong, he would be like a tiger who has grown wings.

With such thoughts in mind, Xun Hou slapped his bag and two jade swords shot out and flew forward.

“Worthless toys.”

Lin Yingmei sneered, her Arctic Star Serpent Spear lunged forward and shot down Xun Hou’s jade swords.

“Lin Chong, let me take a few moves from you.”

Liu Qing roared, her body moved as fast as an arrow towards Lin Yingmei.

The menacing blazing sabre continuously slashed forward but was

immediately deflected by Lin Yingmei's Arctic Star Serpent Spear. The wave of powerful Star Energy wrapped around the spear began to oppress Liu Qing. The constantly colliding forces finally caused the "Blaze Refining Nine Hell Sabre" to fly out of Liu Qing's hand.

"Go away!"

Lin Yingmei spun around and appeared behind Liu Qing, aiming at her spine.

This was indeed a good move, and nobody could fault her technique. Unfortunately, the thing that met her spear head-on was a ball of fire.

The spear attack scattered streamers of flame everywhere.

Liu Qing and her extraordinary sabre technique once again resumed their pressure.

The Deviance Star was not simple, even the Majestic Star could not underestimate her.

Xun Hou stood on the side, waiting for the perfect opportunity to launch a lethal attack against Shu Jing. However, Lin Chong's martial arts were extraordinary, even the both of them combined cannot defeat her. If she was so powerful when her Star Master was only at Early Stage Stardust, when she and her master grew more mature later on, their power would be unimaginable. This thought solidified Xun Hou's intent of squashing Lin Chong here and now.

Liu Qing understood Xun Hou's plan, so she immediately retreated, her hands slowly raising up the Blaze Refining Nine Hell Sabre.

Her maniacal flame and her sabre both resonated, and then slowly fused into one.

"Lin Chong, take my Phoenix Step Sabre Technique!"

Liu Qing shouted as her body shot high into the air with the Blaze Refining Nine Hell Sabre aimed squarely at Lin Yingmei. A slash containing overwhelming power shot out.

A strange black fire streamed out from within the sabre and quickly converged at the tip of the blade, the fierce flame looking almost untameable. This move was flying directly at Lin Chong.

In that moment, the entire world seemed like it was consumed by this powerful flame.

This was Deviance Star Red Haired Devil's Phoenix Step Tactics!

“Nine Consecutive Hell Fire Demonic Slash!”

What a mouthful.

“Master, be careful!!”

Lin Yingmei gripped the Arctic Spear and gathered her Star Energy while facing the flame attack head on.

Fireballs showered Lin Yingmei as the hundred meters surrounding grass field transformed into a desert.

It took only a moment for the fireballs to swallow Lin Chong up completely.

Feeling the intense heat from a hundred metres away, Shu Jing was anxious and wanted to help. But aside from the short pistol he always carried, he had not a single weapon.

Shu Jing had no idea if mere bullets will have any effects on these star cultivators, but the only thing he can do was draw the silver pistol out. The body of the silver pistol were etched with ancient decorative patterns. The gun was given to him as a commemorative gift when he was promoted to become the country's youngest Major. The pistol also had a sharp, solid knife attached to it. The name of the gun was “Silver Blade”. [1]

Xun Hou saw that Liu Qing had surrounded Lin Chong with her ultimate move. Without any hesitation he immediately leapt towards Shu Jing, his fingers curled up into a claw attack to take Shu Jing's life.

No matter how one looked at it, Shu Jing was a weak and

vulnerable Early Stage Stardust cultivator. He didn't even have a decent Artifact to protect himself.

“Bang bang!!”

Shu Jing immediately shot out two shots, but the bullets were not even able to penetrate Xun Hou's Star Energy barrier.

“Are you trying to tickle me?” Xun Hou laughed loudly.

Shu Jing was very annoyed, on Earth no matter what he was still a renowned Military Major. Getting lost in this Liangshan Continent now meant that he had to rely on a woman to protect him. This was such a frustrating turn of events. However, Shu Jing suddenly thought of something.

Shu Jing's agility was quite good, and he was able to dodge several palm attacks from Xun Hou. With his finger on the trigger, he infused it with all the Star Energy in his body. He then aimed at Xun Hou and fired.

A silver bullet shot out surrounded by an aura of light.

Against this seemingly pathetic attack, Xun Hou simply sent a palm forward in jest. However, something unexpected happened.

The bullet shot right through his hand and then penetrated Xun Hou's shoulder.

Xun Hou screamed.

Shu Jing's heart lifted, and he immediately unleashed two more bullets.

The Star Energy bullets were extremely ferocious. Xun Hou risked his life defending against three of these consecutive bullets using all of his Late Stage Stardust cultivation. Instead of retreating, Shu Jing pressed closer and hit him with an army punch. [2]

Without any Artifact, he had used his fist. Xun Hou had not anticipated that Shu Jing was so bold. His punch nearly caused Xun Hou to throw up.

Xun Hou became enraged and lashed out with his all of his Star Energy in response.

Suddenly a beautiful figure appeared in front of Shu Jing, casually deflecting Xun Hou's attack.

"Master, are you alright?" Lin Yingmei looked at Shu Jing, her eyes grim, her heart genuinely worrying about Shu Jing's safety.

Shu Jing nodded, he had never thought that the "Silver Blade" in his hand could be so useful.

"What kind of trash are you, not even able to take care of an Early Stage Stardust cultivator with no martial arts,"

The Red-haired Devil Liu Qing cursed while looking at the injured Xun Hou.

"This person has an unnatural Artifact." Xun Hou had never felt so ashamed.

Liu Qing glared at Xun Hou with a look full of hatred. Not a shred of worship was left in her eyes. She turned towards Lin Chong, smiling: "You are indeed worthy of the title Majestic Star Lin Chong. I already used the Phoenix Step Tactics "Nine Consecutive Hell Fire Demonic Slash", but it only ended up burning some of your clothes. This kind of result really makes people feel frustrated."

Because her contractor Xun Hou was injured, Liu Qing also suffered no small amount of internal damage. Shu Jing had already shown that he could defend himself, not to mention Ling Yingmei who still had more than enough fighting power.

"Master, do we kill them?" Lin Yingmei's grip tightened around the Arctic Star Serpent Spear as it radiated an intense bone-chilling aura.

The temperature of the air suddenly fell dramatically and the burning grass became covered with frost.

Liu Qing and Xun Hou's face suddenly changed.

Not good.

Not only did they fail to steal the chicken, they also lost a handful of rice! [3]

“Kill!”

Shu Jing spat out coldly.

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[1] Sword Pistol! Basing on future chapters, the gun have two modes, gun and knife. It does seems to be a weapon related to Air Force pilots, and is a gun and switchblade knife in one. Perhaps this, but silver.



[image] knivesandgun.com

[2] Basically a gut punch, often taught in the military and thus called an army punch by the author.

[3] The context pretty much explains the meaning, but basically the saying meant that even though they came intending to profit, they are the one who is taken advantage of in the end.

108 Maidens of Destiny: Chapter 5 – Relic Blade Legacy

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CHAPTER 5 – Relic Blade Legacy

- TL: AmeryEdge
- Editors: LtBeefy, Istaripanda

With such a heaven-sent chance, why would Shu Jing pick now to grant his enemy mercy?

Lin Yingmei leapt, her Arctic Star spear thrusted straight forward.

“You are looking down on me too much.” Liu Qing face reddened as she retaliated with everything she had.

Liu Qing face reddened as she retaliated with everything she had.

Lin Yingmei’s spear and Liu Qing’s sabre collided, resulting in blindingly bright sparks.

While deep in the midst of their battle, a pink figure suddenly appeared between them. One could only see that it was a girl who gently dances between the sabre and the spear blades. A Yin Yang formation rotated into existence, gently separating the two maidens from each other, stopping only when they were 10 metres apart.

This turn of event caught Shu Jing and others totally by surprise.

“Little sisters, we should take care all take care of ourselves, please stop fighting.”

A young girl appeared. She wore an extremely intricately decorated silk dress that perfectly accentuated her slender body. She moved

elegantly, her skin paler than snow, soft and tender. Her beauty was the kind capable of collapsing empires.

Even when she wasn't trying, an aura of regality radiated from her that caused others to not dare look down on her.

"Step aside, don't get in my way!" Lin Yingmei's eyes ferociously gleamed, her killing intent covering the sky.

"Arctic Star Serpent Spear? Who would have thought that I would run into Lin Chong sis here. Ah, is that your Master?" The mysterious girl covered her mouth while evaluating Shu Jing in startlement.

Her body slightly moved, and even before Lin Yingmei could respond, the mysterious girl was already standing in front of Shu Jing.

Is that speed even humanely possible?

Shu Jing didn't even have the chance to panic before a sweet smelling scent like exotic flowers invaded his nose.

"How did you get Lin Chong sis to contract with you?" The girl smiled mischievously.

"Master, retreat!" Lin Yingmei quickly spun around and shouted a heaven-defying cry as her spear attack shot out.

The girl's body was light as a feather as she calmly flew backward, completely dodging Lin Chong's attack.

"Which Star are you?" Lin Yingmei gripped her spear, her entire body tensed up considerably. Just in the past few seconds, Lin Yingmei could sense that the girl in front of her was quite powerful.

Lin Yingmei gripped her spear, her entire body tensed up considerably. Just in the past few seconds, Lin Yingmei could sense that the girl in front of her was quite powerful.

The mysterious girl only smiled and did not answer. She looked around at the devastated grass field and said: "Just now on the

mountain I felt a sudden fluctuation of power. I never thought that it was due to the little sisters' Star Duel. Please give me face and temporarily stop fighting."

"What qualification do you have to give me orders?" Deviance Star Liu Qing's overbearing voice shouted out.

"Just now, I saved your life." The girl laughed and said: "If not for me, both you and your Star Master would be dead in the ground."

Liu Qing and Xun Hou's face turned extremely unpleasant.

Xun Hou knew that because he was injured by Shu Jing, he ended up affecting Liu Qing's combat capability. If they continue to fight, it will mostly likely end in their defeat. Thinking so, he saluted: "We will do as you said."

Liu Qing only gave a small grunt and resheathed her saber.

"And what does this Star Master think about my suggestion?" The girl turned her eyes towards Shu Jing, beaming with a smile as she asked. Her smile clearly signalled that she would not take any other answer than the one she wanted.

"We can't beat you, so we can only agree". Shu Jing understood and agreed begrudgingly.

The girl happily laughed: "Isn't this much better? Let's wait until you meet again on the Liangshan Maiden Domain to show off your powers."

"What a busybody, poking your nose in other people's matters for no reason." Liu Qing said with a resentful tone.

"Master!" Lin Yingmei also did not feel very satisfied. Her hands still gripped the spear tightly.

Shu Jing shook his head and stepped forward to hold her back. Now that this mysterious girl had intervened, they could only restrain themselves. With her power, even if the Majestic Star and Deviance Star were to combine their strength, they were still not her match. Even if they weren't willing, there was nothing they could do. He

only regretted missing out on the one in a thousand year chance — this time they only won due to the other party's overconfidence. Later on, he doubts they would have such a good chance again. Perhaps it would be even more dangerous next time with them knowing his strength.

“How are your injuries?” Shu Jing looked at Lin Yingmei’s body full of wounds. Liu Qing’s Nine Consecutive Hell Fire Slash was no joke, and it obviously took some effort to escape from it.

Lin Yingmei shook her head and retracted her spear.

“Now that you guys have made up, this Lil-er have some business that I hope both of you can help me out with.” The mysterious girl who called herself Lil-er said and then laughed loudly. She was asking for their help, but everyone knew it was an order that was impossible to reject.

“What can we help you with?” Shu Jing asked.

“When I was at the top of the mountain, I discovered an ancient Relic Blade legacy monument. Unfortunately, there was a protective seal around the place, and it requires at least three Stars to unlock the seal! This matter has caused me much grief.”

“If it’s really the Relic Blade legacy, then I guess we can help you out this one time!” Liu Qing humped and said.

Seeing that even Lin Chong was affected by this news, Shu Jing also quickly nodded in reply.

The group then headed towards the mountain. Thanks to having the mysterious girl lead the way, they were able to avoid any trouble.

The night descended. Everybody split into their respective groups to find their own resting ground.

Shu Jing leaned on a boulder, pulled out Silver Blade. He quietly practiced distilling Star Energy into bullets over and over again.

Lin Yingmei did a round of inspection before settling down across from him. She stared at the silver weapon in Shu Jing's hands with a quizzical feeling. She had never come across this type of weapon. On the surface there was no fluctuation of energy, at a glance, it should have been nothing more than a useless lump of iron. But Shu Jing had used this lump of iron to injure Xun Hou, who had achieved Stardust Late Stage. Lin Yingmei saw with her own eyes.

The weapon's penetrative power was comparable to a low-grade Nebula Stage Artifact. It could be used continuously very quickly, and without the need to be controlled by Divine Intent.

Not only was her Master odd, even his weapon was peculiar.

“Yingmei, can you guess who that Star Knight is?” Shu Jing finished cleaning the gun and then looked towards the mysterious girl who was sleeping casually on top of a tree branch in the distance.

Lin Yingmei glanced over and spoke reluctantly: “She hasn’t used her unique martial art yet, so there is no way for me to tell. There are few uncontracted stars under the heaven who could oppress me, but there’s always the chance that she have had other fateful encounters that bolstered her strength.”

“Could it be Song Jiang?” Shu Jing smile and said. Leader Star Song Jiang, the number one Liangshan warrior.

“Song Jiang?” Lin Yingmei asked with some disdain.

“Right now Master should be careful until we reach the Legacy.” Lin Yingmei over at the Liu Qing pair, her expression serious. “Logically, Deviance Star Liu Tang would never agree to contract with such a useless star cultivator. He must have something that caused the Red Haired Devil to be swayed.”

“Let’s head inside the legacy and then find a way to separate from them.” Shu Jing said.

Lin Yingmei nodded, not disagreeing.

On the other side, Liu Qing coldly looked at Xun Hou: “You nearly sabotaged me this time!”

Xun Hou nervously said: “That kid’s Artifact is so strange, next time I will definitely be more careful.”

“Hmph, you better!” Liu Qing then stared daggers at the mysterious girl from the corner of her eyes: “Right now we should prioritise recovering from our injuries. When we are fully healed and the timing is right, we will kill both Lin Chong and her Star Master. This time you must remember to take out your Nebula Stage Artifact. Against the Majestic Star, we must not hold back.”

Xun Hou stared at Shu Jing with rising killing intent: “This damn Early Stage Stardust cultivator, I will definitely cut him into a million pieces.”

“That would be for the best!” Liu Qing spoke with a grim face.

Two days later, they safely reached their destination.

Relic Blade Legacy!

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108 Maidens of Destiny: Chapter 6 – Spirit Engulfing Flood Dragons

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CHAPTER 6 – Spirit Engulfing Flood Dragons

- TL: AmeryEdge
- ED: LtBeefy, Istaripanda

The Relic Blade Legacy was hidden inside a small mountain ridge. Looking from the outside there really was nothing worthy of praise: no special marker or exotic plants were found in the surrounding area. Outside the large gate was just simple wild grass. If not for Lil' Er's direction they would have completely passed by this area.

"Is this really the Relic Blade Legacy from legends?" Xun Hou asked suspiciously.

"This place is only a lesser Relic Blade Legacy, but it still contains some pretty good stuff. You Star Masters should make the most of this chance." Lil' Er laughed deviously. This was due to the fact that Star Knights were incapable of using any weapons aside from their own personal one granted by the heaven, so Artifacts or even Astral Artifacts were useless to them.

The words spoken by the young girl caused both Shu Jing and Xun Hou to be moved.

"Then we won't stand on ceremony."

Lil' Er stood in front of the gate with two hands forming a seal. A protective formation began to mobilise, stopping them from entering. "This protective formation's name is "Sky Enveloping Star Obeying Formation". Within it, there are three crucial points that

require us sisters to each simultaneously mobilize our own unique martial arts and attack it.” Lil’ Er spoke seriously.

Lin Yingmei and Liu Qing nodded, their weapons pointed towards the locations Lil’Er showed them.

As the two crucial points came under attack, waves of energy fluctuated in response from the protective formation. Everybody turned around and looked at Lil’ Er intently during this crucial moment. If this protective formation could only be broken by Star Knight martial arts then Shu Jing looked forward to finding out Lil’ Er’s real identity.

Lil’ Er laughed softly, but it did not seem like she planned to expose herself just yet. A small sound echoed, and suddenly a dazzling golden light shot out from her palm.

“BOOM!”

The protective formation had completely shattered.

“Haha, it’s finally opened.” Lil’ Er excitedly said and clapped her hands.

After the gate opened, everyone could see a long hallway with no end in sight. The entire corridor seemed to be carved from large solid bluestone bricks. On the two sides of the hall were glowing green lights that illuminated the ancient legacy. The solemn and majestic scene inside of the legacy completely contrasted with the ordinary outside landscape.

Lil’ Er immediately flew in like an arrow.

“Humph!” Xun Hou glanced at Shu Jing full of contempt. Not wishing to miss out on the treasures, he also quickly ran inside, followed closely by Liu Qing.

“Let us go.”

This corridor was unfathomably deep, almost like there was no end

to it. In the blink of an eye Lil' Er and Xun Hou have disappeared from view. Shu Jing wasn't feeling too impatient. With people already leading the way ahead, he could calmly follow from behind.

He nonchalantly enjoyed the sight of the stones on the two sides of the hallway while quietly praising the workmanship of the creators in his heart. All along the walls, the bluestones were tightly and intricately arranged layer atop layer, almost as if they were decorative dragon scales.

“Even the architecture is impressive.” Shu Jing sighed.

“Legend says that this Relic Blade legacy has a hidden secret. The person who discover this secret will find an Astral Treasure called the Profound Star Barrier.” Lin Yingmei spoke.

“Really?” Shu Jing’s eyes brighten. Astral Artifacts were Artifacts that fell from the Star Realm. They were immensely powerful, more so than any ordinary artifact. Even an Oblivion Stage Artifact could not be compared to an Astral Artifact.T.

“I’m afraid that is Lil’ Er’s goal in coming here. However, countless people have attempted to solve the secret of this Relic Blade legacy, but none of them have succeeded in obtaining the Profound Star Barrier.” Lin Yingmei wasn’t fully convinced that this legacy truly contained this Artifact. Even if it did at some point, perhaps someone had already taken it away during the past few hundred years.

“Could somebody have already solved the secret?” Shu Jing asked as he stroked the surface of the walls.

Lin Yingmei shook her head, indicating that she hadn’t heard any news regarding this matter.

The hallway was so incredibly long that only after hours of walking did they end up at an impasse.

“You guys are so slow!” Lil’ Er had to wait for quite some time, so when she finally saw them, she laughed out heartily.

“Why did you stop?”

Shu Jing asked while evaluating the surrounding. At the end of the hallway was a large hall room. In the middle of this hall was a large mural carved on a huge polished stone. The mural depicted a large Green Dragon with a jewel in its mouth. To the sides of the painting were two different directions shrouded in darkness. Aside from that, there were seven pillars. The one at the very center was made entirely from a large gemstone, with mysterious light radiating from inside it.

“See that gemstone pillar?” Lil’ Er pointed at the gemstone pillar at the center.

“Is there something wrong with it?” Shu Jing felt something was out of place. Why haven’t anyone taken it through all these years?

Lil’ Er asked back: “Now that we are here, what do you think of this Relic Blade legacy?”

“There is nothing here aside from that pillar!” Xun Hou spoke full of contempt. “No Artifacts nor Astral Beasts.”

Lil’ Er kept smiling as she turned towards Shu Jing: “What about you?”

“It’s too clean.” Shu Jing frowned, now that this girl has mentioned it he realised that this place was spotless. According to Lin Chong, this legacy has been around for hundreds of years, it’s impossible for it to remain so clean after all this time.

“You seem to be smarter than him at least. What could be causing everything to be like this?” Lil’ Er praised.

“Could it be because of this gemstone pillar?” Shu Jing answered full of doubt.

Lil’ Er giggles: “That’s an Astral Gemstone”

“Astral Gemstone?!!” Everybody shouted in surprise.

Astral Gemstones were well known across the continent for being a precious material that came from the Liangshan Maiden’s realm. Inside these gemstones were a separate space where items can be

stored. The majority of cultivators in Liangshan continent all carried an “Astral Bag” because of its unique property. On the outside the Astral Bag would look just like a normal bag, but when infused with a small Astral Gemstone they were capable of storing various items of all different sizes.

However, these Astral Gemstones are extremely rare. Only every 108 years when the Star Duel Banquet commences do these rare gemstones follow the Star Knights and descend into the mortal plane. That’s why this rare material’s value can be comparable to Astral Artifacts.

In front of them right now was a massive block of the rare Astral Gemstone. Everyone could hardly believe it.

“Then what the hell are we waiting for?” Xun Hou smiled greedily and ran towards the pillar.

“Idiot!” Liu Qing-er cursed at him.

When Xun Hou stepped into the throne hall, the gemstone pillar suddenly began to glow. The other surrounding pillars also began to light up in order. Xun Hou was scared out of his wits by this sudden sight.

Inside the gemstone pillar, there suddenly appeared a shadow that grew bigger and bigger, almost like it wanted to break the gemstone apart to escape.

Lil’ Er also ran into the throne hall. After which, there was a loud rumbling, and then the shadow finally broke out of the pillar. Like a cyclone, countless creatures burst out into the room.

“Spirit Engulfing Flood Dragons!”

Liu Qing-Er shouted.

These Spirit Engulfing Flood Dragon belonged to the peak of the Flood Dragon bloodline, but they were extremely small, their bodies only measuring about a foot. However, it could fly extremely fast in midair and swallow Star Energy. With so many of them, it would only take seconds for them to consume an entire person.

Liu Qing took out her Blaze Refining Nine Hell Sabre. A single slash with the sabre created a fireball that brought with it a powerful heat wave shooting forward. Unfortunately, these Spirit Engulfing Flood Dragons also belonged to the Ancient Beast category. Not only could they swallow Star Energy, they even consider Spiritual and Natural Energy to be gourmet meals. That's why the fireball only served to make them even more excited.

Lin Yingmei swung her spear powerfully to create shock waves. However, these Flood Dragons had illusory forms, and none of these attacks have any effect on them.

The Spirit Engulfing Flood Dragons may have look terrifying, but for now, holding them back for wasn't a problem. Lil' Er took this chance to fly across the room and went through the right hallway. Liu Qing-er concentrated all her strength into the Blaze Refining Nine Hell Sabre's fireballs to suppress the beasts. Xun Hou who was scared stiff was dragged by Liu Qing-er into the left hallway.

Lil' Er took this chance to fly across the room and went through the right hallway. Liu Qing-er concentrated all her strength into the Blaze Refining Nine Hell Sabre's fireballs to suppress the beasts. Xun Hou who was scared stiff was dragged by Liu Qing-er into the left hallway.

“Master, let's get out of here.” Lin Yingmei hurriedly said.

Shu Jing nodded and gathered his Star Energy to attack the wild beasts as they make their way to the right hallway.

When they were nearly at the entrance, Shu Jing suddenly stopped. He looked at the walls of the hallway, at the dragon scale decoration that follows along the wall as it heads directly towards the dragon in the mural at the middle of the room. It was a magnificent sight, revealing the true scope of the artwork, as the entire hallway they had walked through now seemed like it was a part of the dragon from the mural.

Glancing at the Spirit Engulfing Flood Dragons, Shu Jing suddenly had a revelation “Could this be the secret?” Shu Jing asked in surprise.

“Master, what are you talking about?” Lin Yingmei gritted her teeth.

“Yingmei, we must head to the centre of the hall.”

Shu Jing turned and ran back towards the painting. With her position as his Star Knight, Lin Yingmei could only hesitantly follow.

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108 Maidens of Destiny: Chapter 7 – Solution to the Legacy’s Secret

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CHAPTER 7 – Solution to the Legacy’s Secret

- TL: AmeryEdge
- ED: LtBeefy, Istaripanda

The closer Shu Jing got to the mural, the more aggressive the Spirit Engulfing Flood Dragons became. Lin Yingmei followed closely behind and protected him with all her might. She was extremely puzzled about why Shu Jing was just standing in front of the painting, stubbornly observing it and refusing to move on.

Shu Jing leaned closer to the mural. The more he inspected it the more vivid and lifelike it became. The figure of the Green Dragon looked like it was about to burst out at a moment’s notice. Inside the dragon’s mouth was a jewel with seven small blinking stars carved upon it. Shu Jing’s eyes lit up. Without any hesitation, his hand shot towards the stars and pressed down on one of them gently. The moment his finger made contact, a dim ray of light appeared from within the star.

When Shu Jing saw this, he immediately pressed down on all seven stars simultaneously, his heart full of expectation for a special event to happen. However, the seven stars only briefly flickered to life before slowly turning back into a normal carving.

“Master, more Spirit Engulfing Flood Dragons are coming out from inside the Astral Gemstone faster and faster, we must leave this place at once!” Lin Yingmei revealed a rarely seen panicked expression. She really didn’t want to end up as a meal for these flood dragons. That kind of death would not be satisfying at all.

Shu Jing turned around and stared unblinkingly at the 7 pillars inside the throne room, and then looked at the 7 stars on the jewel. The way they were arranged was very similar to each other.

“Hold on for just a little longer!” Shu Jing’s mind was spinning at lightning speed. He quickly pressed down on all the 7 stars again.

The seven stars on the pearl once again blinked to life, and a deep muffled sound rang out. The Green Dragon’s jaw lowers, with sounds of stones moving piercing to the ear. By the time the sound stopped, there was now a compartment revealed where the jewel previously was. Lin Yingmei was startled by this development.

Shu Jing didn’t waste anytime scrutinizing the secret compartment. He immediately grabbed everything inside it and shouted: “Let’s go!” Lin Yingmei gathered her strength, swept the Flood Dragons aside with her Arctic Star Serpent Spear, and followed Shu Jing into the right hallway.

After they made their way inside the hall, they realised they were surrounded by complete darkness. The light from the outside simply could not enter this place. Luckily, this was also the Spirit Engulfing Flood Dragon’s weakness, because without light they could not find their targets at all.

After lighting up a small torch, the illuminated Ling Ying Mei turned and asked , “What did Master do just then?”

Shu Jing didn’t immediately answer, but instead he took out some items from inside his pouch. There were a small jade crystal and a jadeite stone in his hand. “I suddenly remembered the secret you mentioned, so I tried something. It seems my thoughts were correct.” [1]

“This is...?” Lin Chong concentrated her Divine Intent on the items in his hand. Suddenly her face showed a surprised expression, “The Profound Astral Gem!!”

“No way, this is the Profound Astral Gem?” Shu Jing was taken aback, and he carefully re-evaluated the palm-sized piece of crystal jade in his hand. There were countless stars forming in the shape of

a eclipsed new moon in his hand. Shu Jing could not detect any power coming from the surface of the jade stone. However, if Lin Yingmei said that it was the Profound Astral Gem, then it must be true.

Shu Jing then shifted his attention to the jade marble. Aside from a dark shadow residing within it, it seemed like just an ordinary rock.

“What great luck, we’ve already managed to get our hands on an Astral Artifact.” Shu Jing grinned.

Lin Yingmei stared at Shu Jing suspiciously. She completely did not believe in the “luck” that Shu Jing spoke about. Thinking about the previous actions of Shu Jing, he definitely knew the solution to the secret of this Relic Blade Legacy. “Master, how did you figure it out?” Lin Yingmei wasn’t able to comprehend his previous actions.

Shu Jing spoke about his discovery of the similarity between the pillars and the stars. In the beginning, he didn’t think much of it, but when Lin Yingmei was hurrying him, a new possibility suddenly emerged in his mind. Shu Jing felt that even though the throne hall contained Astral Gemstone columns, there was no reason for the Legacy’s creator to raise a bunch of Flood Dragons there to guard it, he couldn’t have been so idle that he wasted effort to create such a simple trap. He must have had a deeper motive.

Because while on the outside, the Spirit Engulfing Flood Dragons may seem intimidating, they really aren’t that much of a threat until after a certain period of time has passed, and a sufficient amount of them have gathered. Shu Jing then thought of the possibility that this legacy’s creator had kept the Flood Dragons here not to deal with the people who had invaded the Legacy, but to only scare them into quickly leaving the hall. If this was the reason, then there was only one possible answer: The secret of the Relic Blade Legacy was contained within the main hall itself.

Hearing Shu Jing’s deduction, Lin Yingmei felt faint. “Master, even if you were right, how did the hidden passage open up in the end? No matter what, many people have already gone through this legacy previously.”

“I think the appearance of the Flood Dragons caused them to be too distracted to notice the password”.

“Password?” Lin Yingmei frowned. She had never heard of this term.

“The password is the key to opening this hidden passage. Do you remember the 7 columns? I pressed the stars based on the order those pillars initially lit up. But to be honest I really didn’t think it would reveal this passageway.” Shu Jing said and then laughed: “The architect seemed to have put a lot of thought into this.”

Lin Yingmei could only sigh, a feeling of admiration rising in her heart. If before she still looked down on Shu Jing a bit, after going through this trial she was now completely convinced of his ability. “Master has such deep knowledge, in the blink of an eye you were able to think of so many things! I believe throughout history there has been many Star Masters and Star Knights who have made it to this Legacy, but they were all distracted by the Spirit Engulfing Flood Dragons and never discovered the hidden compartment.”

Shu Jing laughed lightly. On his way to becoming the number one pilot, his intuition, calmness and quick-thinking speed had always been his trump card. The design of these puzzles, while mysterious in their own way, were far outstripped by the puzzles he had encountered in his training.

Shu Jing remembered the time he even challenged the “Tomb of the Ancient Dragon.” The traps inside there could cause even grown men to shiver in fear.

“Why was there such a puzzle in this Legacy? Perhaps the creator had too much time on their hands?” Shu Jing laughed.

“Master isn’t aware of this, but these Legacies like the Relic Blade Legacy are used to assess cultivators!”

Shu Jing asked with a quizzical expression, “Why is there a need to test cultivators?”

“Every time the great Star Duel event begins, many forbidden zone

will simultaneously appear all over the land. Inside these forbidden grounds, there are many treasures both cultivators and Star Knights can only dream of attaining. Due to the upcoming Liangshan Maiden Star Duels, everybody is scrambling to enhance their strength, and the treasures attained from these ancient grounds are their number one choices.”

“What are these forbidden zones like?” Shu Jing curiously asked.

“Based on ancient records, there have been cases of Star Knights discovering these forbidden zones and receiving a drastic increase in power, but there are also cases of people not being able to find anything within them. More importantly, many cultivators and Star Knights have lost their lives at these forbidden grounds over the years, losing even the chance to meet the Liangshan Goddess.” Lin Yingmei slowly explained. “I have heard of forbidden grounds that were so complex in design, even a large amount of cultivators were not able to break through and enter them, resulting in them leaving empty-handed.”

“They sound quite interesting.” Shu Jing’s interest was piqued.

“Unfortunately, most of these forbidden grounds are very dangerous. With your current strength, this Lin Chong will be honest: now isn’t the time.” Lin Yingmei didn’t want Shu Jing to be blinded by greed and run towards his own death.

Shu Jing was likewise not reckless. “If these forbidden sanctuaries have such benefits for Star Knights and Star Masters, sooner or later we will find our way to one. But there seems to be something strange about them, these sanctuaries seemed to be tailored made to attract cultivators connected to the Star Duel Covenant, as if they were put there on purpose.”

“Your servant also thinks this, but in order to know for sure, I’m afraid there is only one way –” Lin Yingmei calmly said.

“Become the final victor of the Liangshan Star Duel!”

[1] Jade crystals(Nephrite) and Jadeites are two different kind of stones.

The Profound Astral Gem should like something like this:

[image]



while the slab of Jadeite is more like this:

[image]



jadeitejade.com

108 Maidens of Destiny: Chapter 8 – The Majestic Star’s Symbol

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CHAPTER 8 – The Majestic Star’s Symbol

- TL: AmeryEdge
- ED: No1Fan, Arch Requiem, LtBeefy

During their journey through the pitch black corridor, Shu Jing managed to learn several things from Lin Yingmei. It seems that the matters about Star Duels were not as simple as he originally thought, signing a contract was only the first step. In order to enter the holy ground of the Liangshan Maiden, Star Maidens would use all means possible to improve their strength. The girls usually hid their power and patiently bided their time, so it would be difficult for him to fathom their true strength.

And not only were there the Star Maidens, all of their Star Masters were also his enemy.

A light finally appeared at the end of the passageway.

Shu Jing and Lin Yingmei finally finished their conversation and came out from the passageway. The sun was dazzlingly bright, Shu Jing wasn’t able to adapt in time and furiously blinked his eyes.

In front of them were valleys surrounded by mountains completely covered in lush green vegetation. There were countless blooming flowers, and the wind carried with it a soft scent that penetrated deep into one’s souls.

“Lin Chong little sis, why were you so late? Did you discovered something interesting?” A gentle voice carried by the wind sounded

out from a nearby willow branch.

Shu Jing looked up, who could it be aside from Lil' Er?

The girl was relaxing on top of the tree branch, her body looking even suppler than the willow itself.

“Are we inside the legacy?” Shu Jing asked.

“Legacy?” Little Er laughed: “You are so funny, this is the other side of the Unyielding Wall Mountain.”

“What?”

Shu Jing and Lin Yingmei were both startled.

This is the other side of the mountain? Shu Jing and Lin Yingmei lifted their heads, and the Unyielding Wall Mountain was towering above them like a giant.

“We came out just like that?”

Shu Jing was a bit speechless, wasn’t this Relic Blade legacy too simple? However, thinking back, Lin Yingmei had told him about how often legacies would contain only a single puzzle, and the moment one chose the wrong path it would pretty much be the end of the road.

“Did you went through all that just for this view?” Lin Yingmei asked.

Lil’ Er laughed loudly, “Heavens, Little Sis Lin Chong. This is the Unyielding Wall Mountain, which is part of Liangshan Continent’s Five Great Mountains, and is thousands of feet tall. It is almost impossible to cross even if one could fly, and don’t even mention walking. Thus, one must naturally make use of any shortcut they can find.”

“But of course, I also managed to reap some profit this time.”

Lil’ Er took out a bottle. The bottle was half filled with dark gray sand.

Lin Yingmei's face darkened. This was the Relic Blade Sand she had been looking for.

"Where did you find it?" Shu Jing asked.

Lil' Er pointed at the entrance they just came out from. Sure enough, there were some leftover digging marks on the ground where the sand previously was.

At the Relic Blade legacies, aside from the elusive Profound Astral Gem, the most valuable treasure is the small amount of Relic Blade Sand that spawns near the legacy itself.

Even though Lin Yingmei coveted the material, since the other party was one step ahead, she could only give up. However, when she heard Li' Er spoke about the Profound Astral Gem, a trace of pride welled up in her heart.

"Oh that's right, I didn't come to talk about this. Deviance Star Liu Tang was looking for you guys, but I deceived her and said you headed towards the west. She has already left. You guys should be careful, she won't let you go. I hope we will be able to meet once again."

Lil' Er chuckled, from her fingers appeared a bright ray of light, and her figure vanished without a trace.

Using her Divine Intent to search the area, Yingmei discovered there wasn't even a breath of Lil' Er was left behind. She had really left.

"Even Star Knights have consciences?"

Shu Jing was surprised. He thought that with Lil' Er's formidable strength, since sooner or later all Star Knights will have to fight to the death at Liangshan Maiden Domain, she would use this opportunity to get rid of them. It seems like she didn't plan to do so. "Perhaps all Star Maidens who have not entered a Star Duel Covenant contract all act this naive?"

Lin Yingmei's did not reply. She was just as confused as Shu Jing.

“Forget it, we must get out of here quickly.” Shu Jing thought their current situation wasn’t exactly optimal. Inside the Legacy, most of their Star Energy was absorbed by the Spirit Engulfing Flood Dragons. Right now, they were at their weakest. Even if they had the Profound Astral Gem, against the Deviance Star, they might still be at a disadvantage.

Thinking so, Shu Jing and Lin Yingmei left towards another direction.

The night fell, and the mountain became quiet.

Shu Jing flipped the Profound Astral Gem back and forth, but still couldn’t figure anything out. He also tried to inject a small bit of Star Energy into it, but nothing happened.

Shu Jing laid on the grass while far away on a hilltop, Lin Yingmei was practicing her Spear Technique. Moonlight was shining upon the Arctic Star Lone Moon Serpent Spear, each spear thrust caused a chilling breeze to be emitted. Lin Yingmei’s determined expression caused Shu Jing to quietly praise her.

Suddenly, Lin Yingmei stopped her training, turning to Shu Jing and asked: “Master, do you also wish to train?”

“I lack talent in this area.” Shu Jing shook his head.

“No, since we are connected through the contract, some of my experience have been transferred over to you. All you need to do is practice and this latent power will awaken.” Lin Yingmei said.

“Really? I can become just like you?”

Lin Yingmei nodded affirmatively.

Shu Jing wanted to ask about what he needed to do to awaken this power, but seeing Lin Yingmei standing in the battle position, he immediately understood. The best way to stimulate his potential was through fighting.

“Be careful.” Shu Jing pulled out the Silver Blade.

“Do your best!” Lin Yingmei spoke icily.

Before she even finished speaking, a chilling streak of light shot out towards her.

Shu Jing went ahead and attacked.

Lin Yingmei’s hand shook, blue light radiates from her attack as it flew towards Shu Jing.

Even with Star Energy reinforcing them, the bullets were not able to oppress the blue light. Instantly, the light roared to life like a snake and pounced at him. This attack did not allow Shu Jing even a bit of time to breathe.

This is Lin Chong’s spear technique?

BANG BANG BANG!!

Without any hesitation, Shu Jing’s continuous bullets shot forward, each like a terrifying assassin.

The sounds of the bullets and metals continuously colliding rang out in the air. This was the first time Lin Yingmei were already displaying her true strength.

Not only were her attacks swift, but even her defence was impenetrable.

Afterimages of both bullets and blades formed a freezing whirlwind in the surrounding thirty feet area.

Under this intense pressure, Shu Jing’s hidden potential began to show itself, causing his movements to drastically improve. Even though he was sometimes forcibly cornered, with mere inches away from a fatal attack, he always managed to narrowly escape. In the blink of an eye, his figure was already upon Lin Yingmei.

A punch filled with freezing power struck out, and in the girl’s eyes a blue glint of light was reflected.

Lin Yingmei remained calm. Her feet became as fast as the wind and casually sidestepped the punch. But the attack suddenly changed direction and swept horizontally, its speed and power increasing by several folds. However Lin Yingmei was even prepared for this, and her spear instantly deflected Shu Jing's side sweeping strike.

The chilling sharp spear point forced Shu Jing to retreat.

In an instant, Lin Yingmei had shifted the tides of battle and gained the upper hand.

Even though he was mentally prepared, Lin Yingmei's tyrannical attacks could not be underestimated. Her strength exceeded his by far, and with her overwhelming momentum, Shu Jing was pushed back several metres. But the moment his feet touched the ground, he immediately regained his balance.

A soft humph sounded out.

The trigger was pulled.

Several rapidly rotating bullets shot out, creating disturbances in the air akin to a venomous serpents' fangs.

Lin Yingmei was ready. She jumped high up into the air as the bullets swarmed towards her.

Lin Yingmei didn't even stop to think, as her Arctic Star Serpent swept down and sliced the incoming bullets in half. "Master, you are on the right track."

Shu Jing's strange attacks had managed to impress Lin Chong.

The Star Symbol on Shu Jing's forehead began to shine, bringing with it a deeply comfortable feeling that spread throughout his entire body and meridians.

108 Maidens of Destiny: Chapter 9 – The Fallen Star and The Incompetent Leader Star

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CHAPTER 9 – The Fallen Star and The Incompetent Leader Star

- TL: AmeryEdge
- ED: LtBeefy, No1Fan, Azusky, Istaripanda

Shu Jing smiled and coldly shouted out while the Silver Blade in his hand released a powerful icy blue wind force towards Lin Yingmei. The wind force transformed into a devastating hurricane that destroyed everything in its way. It then completely surrounded Lin Yingmei from all sides with afterimages.

However, no matter how cunning or unpredictable his attacks, he still couldn't injure Lin Yingmei. The Arctic Star Serpent Spear constantly spun around her like an impenetrable wall, bouncing back every single one of Shu Jing's blade illusions.

This was the first time Shu Jing had fought against a Star Knight. Seeing none of his attacks being effective, he breathe in cautiously in his heart,

The Majestic Star Lin Chong was definitely impressive. Anything he could do, he had already done. Right now, he was the most powerful he's ever been, yet it was still not enough.

“Master, how are you feeling?” Lin Yingmei asked, concerned.

“Yingmei, are you hungry or something? Put some power into it!”

Shu Jing was thrilled. All the cells in his body were being

invigorated due to the intense battle, and the Star Symbol on his forehead shined even brighter than before, reflecting his mood.

“Your servant understands!”

Lin Yingmei’s spear once again shot forward.

Seeing her master in high spirits, Lin Yingmei’s figure transformed into a fearsome figure, resembling that of a demon from hell. She completely shrunk the space between them and instantly appeared in front of Shu Jing, her body inches away from the ground. Before the dark aura surrounding her had the chance to disperse, her Arctic Star Serpent Spear had already begun to slash right across.

A flash of light!

The night seemed to have split apart.

Shu Jing wasn’t able to say a word. His face went pale, his wrist swinging upwards. He didn’t bother to shoot only used the Silver Blade to defend against the attack.

He no longer planned to rely on the power of his energy bullets. Instead, he would focus on simple speed to defeat Yingmei.

Shu Jing’s hands gripped the Silver Blade tightly, the icy sword tip flashed like thunder and lightning .A powerful murderous aura enveloped Lin Yingmei’s body.

The darkness was suddenly split apart!

Shu Jing’s body was like an illusion, appearing by her side in a blink of an eye.

Sounds of weapons colliding rang out again and again.

Lin Yingmei withdrew, her spear shaking But she still managed to rigidly maintain the spear in an offensive stance. Like her title, her spear was as towering as a mountain, solid and unyielding.

Facing Shu Jing’s strange surprise attack, her face remained calm.

Shu Jing smiled slightly. His sword flashed like lightning, his speed faster than the wind itself. The blade headed directly towards Lin Yingmei's chest.

All of this happened in an instant, but with the short distance between them, each moment lasted as long as a lifetime.

At the last second, Shu Jing slightly shifted the direction of his blade. The shockwave of this attack shot right by Lin Yingmei, ripping a piece of her clothes.

With his attack piercing through Lin Yingmei's clothes, along with the huge inertia force of his movement, Shu Jing crashed into her embrace.

Time seemed to have stopped.

Lin Yingmei stared at the chest that was pressed right on top of her as her entire body turned stiff. The strange feelings transmitted by being so close to him eventually jolted her awake.

The moonlight shined down on them, illuminating Lin Yingmei's shocked expression.

Shu Jing had demonstrated an amazing potential for fighting.

He gasped heavily, his entire body felt like falling apart. He didn't even have the strength to pull the trigger of his gun. If Lin Chong had continued to attack him now, the only thing he could do was sit and wait for his death.

As Lin Yingmei retrieved her Arctic Star Serpent Spear, Shu Jing lost all his remaining strength and fell forward.

“Master!”

Lin Yingmei called out and quickly stopped his fall with her arms. Seeing his determined expression, even the Majestic Star couldn't help but smile slightly.

“Not bad, Master.”

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After the fight, they continued their journey in search of Relic Blade Sand. Shu Jing sparred with Lin Yingmei daily. His improvement rate was astonishing, each time they fought Lin Yingmei was shocked anew.

This was the first time that she had seen a Star Master able to integrate with a Star Knight's experience so easily. It was almost as if she and Shu Jing were made for each other.

Since they were pursued by the Deviance Star, they had to reserve some strength while training, which consumed huge amounts of Star Energy. When the time came, they wanted to go into battle at their best condition, with the Star Combat state exciting their blood endlessly.

Ten days later, at night.

A strange event began to occur in the sky. Suddenly, the entire night became blindingly bright while the 108 sacred stars resonated. A single dazzling blue star began to glow intensely, causing the night to turn into day.

Shu Jing and Lin Yingmei stopped in the middle of their training and looked up.

After the sacred star released the intense blue light, a red dense ray of light shot to the East as the star followed along and began to fall towards the Liangshan Maiden.

A chaotic light path carved its way across the night.

“A Fallen Star!” Lin Yingmei whispered.

“Fallen Star? Are you saying that a Star Knight has been defeated?” Shu Jing immediately understood what she meant.

Lin Yingmei nodded calmly “That's right, when a Star Knight is defeated, their representative sacred star will fall from the sky, and we call this a Fallen Star.”

“Are they dead?” Shu Jing felt some pity about this matter.

“It would be better to say that they have returned home.” Lin Yingmei maintained her usual expression while staring at the distant Liangshan Maiden. It was impossible to tell what was on her mind.

“I wonder which Star it was.”

“It’s probably Master’s all-time favourite, the Leader Star Song Jiang!” Lin Yingmei said casually while glancing at Shu Jing.

Shu Jing smiled sheepishly. How could he not detect the faint sour note in Lin Yingmei’s voice?

“But why would you assume that it is Song Jiang who has fallen?”

Shu Jing was too curious and asked. From Lin Yingmei’s tone, he could tell she held some disdain towards the legendary leader of the 108 stars. Could it be that the Star Maiden Duels shared a similarity with the classic novel when it comes to Song Jiang’s idiocy? (1)

“Even if it’s just fighting prowess, she can’t compare with the current Master.” Lin Yingmei said flatly.

Shu Jing’s face reddened from Yingmei’s straightforwardness.

“According to what your servant knows, during every single Star Duel, Leader Star Song Jiang was always the first one to be defeated.”

“Is she really that useless?”

“Amongst all the combat specialised stars, she is the weakest.” Lin Yingmei shook her head.

According to Yingmei, the Star Knights specialties are divided into Martial Arts, Mystic Arts and Star Master abilities. Martial arts and Mystic Arts are the most important powers since the Star Master abilities are only useful when used to support an appropriately powerful Star Master partner.

Historically, Song Jiang's ability have been rated at the lowest. Throughout the Five Great Dynasties era, no Star Master would willingly contract with her.

Lin Yingmei explained: "Song Jiang lacks combat abilities, yet she sits at the very top of the ranking. There is a rule in the Star Duel. Defeat a Star Knight and one shall gain their Star Energy. You can imagine what huge amount of Star Energy is residing within the Leader Star. No Star Knight or Star Master would pass on this immensely beneficial "medicine"."

Shu Jing felt even more pity for this Leader Star once he found out about this matter. Her situation is just too similar to Xuanzang's flesh. (2)

Timely Rain oh Timely Rain (3), will you just be like your nickname and be around to deliver a timely experience boost for your fellow Star Knights?

"Yingmei, are you also after her power?"

Lin Yingmei smiled lightly: "Master is looking down on this servant too much. Lin Chong treats people fairly, I don't have any interest in killing useless weaklings. Of course, if Master orders me to, I will complete the mission without hesitation."

"Fighting a defenseless enemy is also not something I want to do."

In this matter, they had common opinions. However, Shu Jing also quietly thought that it wouldn't be a bad idea if he could end up making a contract with this Timely Rain Song Jiang.

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(1) In the classic novel, Song Jiang, while he was an expert martial artist and a scholar, made some seriously bad decisions while leading the 108 heroes, resulting in his own tragic death later. He also famously saved Lin Chong's arch enemy Gao Qiu, who is also the main antagonist of Water Margin.

(2) Xuanzang (From Journey to the West) is a monk whose flesh

will grant immortality to any demon who consumed it.

(3) Song Jiang official nickname is the “Protector of Justice”, but he was also known as the Timely Rain for his kind and generous nature.

108 Maidens of Destiny: Chapter 10 – Running into a Demoness

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CHAPTER 10 – Running into a Demoness

- TL: AmeryEdge
- ED: Azusky, No1Fan

“Yingmei, this Relic Blade Sand is really hard to find. Is there no way for you to hurry up?” After ten days of continuous searching, Shu Jing and Lin Yingmei had been all over this side of the mountain, but there were no gains whatsoever. Shu Jing couldn’t help but think Yingmei was mistaken.

“It is true that this is a little troublesome...” Lin Yingmei looked at Shu Jing apprehensively, her eyes full of thoughts, as if she was trying to decide on something. In the end, she shook her head lightly.

Shu Jing couldn’t guess what Lin Yingmei was thinking about. But he knew how huge and boundless the Liangshan Continent was. Just an ordinary plain was already larger than the Pampas Region on Earth by several times. Trying to find the Relic Blade Sands in a place like this was harder than finding a needle in the ocean.

“Time is money! Right now, there are already 40 contracted stars, if we continue like this we won’t be able to find it before all 108 stars have successfully contracted.” Shu Jing explained.

“What does Master suggest?”

Shu Jing looked at the nearby pond “I’ll go take a bath first, you go ahead and keep thinking about new methods to improve our

efficiency. Randomly looking everywhere like we are doing right now is probably not the best idea.”

Lin Yingmei nodded and said, “Your servant will go and observe the surrounding areas for a bit!”

It had nearly been a month since Shu Jing came to this new world. The biggest impression Shu Jing had about this place was that it was entirely covered with high mountains, large lakes, all around a beautiful and breathtaking scenery. Due to this picturesque and calming landscape, Shu Jing was able to endure the current situation.

Taking off all his clothes, Shu Jing jumped into the pond. The cooling sensation infiltrated his body, causing him to feel extremely relaxed. As he was preparing to close his eyes and concentrate on recovering his body, a loud commotion resounded from the nearby woods.

Shu Jing’s eyes shot open, just in time to catch a glimpse of a girl with slender body walking out from the forest. She was wearing what seemed to be a short green skirt, only about knee-high in length, which showed off her smooth, long pair of legs which were wrapped in white socks. Seeing Shu Jing, her beautiful eyes lit up.

Damnit, he was being peeked at!

Shu Jing immediately covered his private part with his hands.

He thought that the girl would be startled and scream, but instead a sweet and seductive voice rang out, “Young master, save me!”

Before Shu Jing could figure out what was going on, she floated across the pond towards him and buried herself in his chest. Shu Jing was sweating cold bullets of sweat. While his two hands were busy, she looked up at him with breath taking eyes, her cheeks blushing pink, her two arms clinging tightly to Shu Jing. She buried her head in his chest while pouting: “Young Master, please save me!”

I’m the one who needs saving! Shu Jing felt like weeping. She was

fast. In the blink of an eye she had already sneaked up on him. If she was an assassin he'd already be dead.

Sensing the soft sensation coming from the girl's body as she snuggled up to him, a certain part of Shu Jing's body hardened, gently poking her. The girl, however, only shouted cutely: "Young Master, watch out behind you!"

"ROOOAAR!!!"

A fierce roar echoed across the forest and a massive brightly colored tiger appeared. Its opened jaws revealed a pair of long sharp fangs. Its eyes golden, its mouth exuding a foul, bloody stench.

"Heavens, what kind of tiger is this?" Shu Jing quietly wondered.

"ROAR!"

The tiger roared once more, causing waves to appear in the water. The overwhelming roar nearly made Shu Jing fall over. Shu Jing glanced at the area where his clothes and Silver Blade were as he slowly retreated.

The tiger revealed its fangs and pounced forward.

Shu Jing immediately hugged the girl tightly and jumped backward. He jumped over 5 metres high, shocking the girl in his arms. Making it to other side, he quickly headed for his pistol, but the tiger was fierce and rapidly attacked him. Shu Jing could only use his legs as a shield. The tiger ferociously bit down at his leg, causing Shu Jing to suffer unimaginable pain! Shu Jing bit his lips until it bled. Luckily, his willpower was stronger than the pain. He continued to struggle to reach out for the stone where his Silver Blade lied. His fingers managed to finally grasp the pistol.

Bang bang!

Two consecutive bullets were shot.

The shots penetrated the tiger's skull. Now, it had two glaring bloodied holes in its forehead. The light in its eyes began to dim, as its body shook several times before finally dropping onto the

ground.

The girl looked at Shu Jing with a pale expression and said, “Are you alright?” It would strange if he was alright! He felt like all the bones in his legs were broken apart. He awkwardly stuttered, “Let me get dressed first.”

Only now did the girl realise that Shu Jing wasn’t wearing any clothes. Her face reddened, but she still hastily picked up the clothes Shu Jing left on the ground and said, “Let me help you put on your clothes!”

“Strange pants.” The girl stared incredulously at Shu Jing’s underwear, she has never seen this kind of clothing.

With his underwear being inspected so closely by a girl, Shu Jing’s wanted to bury his head in a hole. He quickly snatched it from her and rebuked angrily, “Turn around so I can do it myself!”

The girl giggled cutely.

“What do you think you are doing?” Suddenly a furious voice sounded out. It was Lin Yingmei who had rushed back after hearing the commotion from afar. Seeing the two drenched people next to the pond, she immediately leapt forward with the Arctic Star Serpent Spear.

The young girl gave a startled cry, but before she could respond, an icy cold spear has already made its way to her neck. When Lin Yingmei saw the wound on Shu Jing’s leg, her eyes overflowed with killing intent.

“Calm down, I was attacked by that tiger over there”. Shu Jing didn’t want to go through the farce of having Lin Yingmei kill his damsel by accident right after he finished saving her from distress.

Seeing Shu Jing struggle to put on his clothes due to the pain of his leg, Lin Yingmei retrieved her spear and walked next to Shu Jing to help him get changed.

The girl breathed out in relief, her eyes looking strangely at Lin Yingmei.

In terms of fighting, Lin Yingmei was second to none. But when it came to servicing others, she didn't know where to start. She really was like a pampered Princess, her hands that could expertly wield the Arctic Star Serpent Spear were currently fumbling to button up Shu Jing's pants. She really didn't know where to look.

This was the first time Shu Jing had two young ladies waiting for him to get changed. Naturally, he was affected.

After awhile, the beet red Lin Yingmei finally finished helping Shu Jing put on his clothes.

“Why did you lead the tiger here?” Lin Yingmei looked at the girl disdainfully.

“I’m really sorry, I really didn’t mean to.” The girl clapped her hands together and repeatedly bowed in apology.

“Forget it”. Shu Jing didn’t want to delve into these small matters. Instead, he was a lot more interested in the colorful metallic beast. Are all the animals in this Liangshan Continent this formidable?

“This maiden’s name is Song Lu. I came from a nearby village. Why don’t Young Master follow me to my village to get treatments for your injury?” Song Lu said full of concern.

Shu Jing nodded, with his current condition, no matter where he went it would be difficult to get anything done.

Lin Yingmei grunted coldly. She stored the body of the Blossom Steel Tiger inside her Astral Bag. Turning around, she planned to give her master a shoulder to lean on. However, before she could, Song Lu had already made her way to Shu Jing’s side.

“Your Artifact is so impressive. It took out the tiger just like that.” Whether intentionally or not, Song Lu’s soft and firm chest was repeatedly brushing up against Shu Jing’s arm as they walked.

Shu Jing looked at Song Lu’s shy expression. He suddenly remembered his earlier conversation with Lin Yingmei about the Leader Star. Suddenly, a strange thought occurred to him, could she be... Song Jiang?

“Young Master, what are you thinking about?” Song Lu whispered.

“My name is Shu Jing, my partner is Lin Yingmei.” Shu Jing answered.

“She is so heroic!” Song Lu said with reverence.

Shu Jing nodded.

“Did Young Master save my life because you want me to repay your kindness by devoting myself to you, as a faithful servant?” The girl softly asked.

“I don’t have that kind of intention.” Shu Jing shook his head.

“Well, if Young Master needs a ride, this maiden can help.” Song Lu shyly continued.

“What kind of horse is it?” Shu Jing frowned.

The girl blushed even more. She laughed coyly as she whispered: “Well, the kind only for you to ride.”

This damn succubus is the legendary Song Jiang? No way in hell!

Shu Jing’s eyes twitched in turmoil, his stomach aching ceaselessly.

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108 Maidens of Destiny: Chapter 11 – Chaotic Tail Escape Technique

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Chaotic Tail Escape Technique

- TL: AmeryEdge
- ED: Azusky, No1Fan

There were over a hundred families residing in Song Clan Village. It gave Shu Jing the impression of an ordinary village, with barking dogs, crowing roosters and kitchen chimney smoke in the air. Song Lu went to look for the sole physician in the village to heal Shu Jing, who applied a medicine called “Exhaustive Tendons Powder” on his wounds. He was told that he would completely recover after resting for three to four days. The physician also praised Shu Jing’s resilient body. If a normal person was bit by a Blossom Steel Tiger, their bones would have been shattered to pieces, and some would even be disabled for the rest of their life. Instead, Shu Jing survived with a mere flesh wound.

News of Shu Jing’s slaying of the Blossom Steel Tiger quickly spread throughout the village. It seemed like this beast had previously caused no small amount of damage to this village. All the young men and women of the village came to asked about Shu Jing. If not for Lin Yingmei’s cold and intimidating figure, Song Lu’s house would have already collapsed.

Song Lu suggested that Shu Jing should stay here and rest until he completely recovered. Yingmei felt partially responsible for this matter, so she did not object.

Shu Jing could only go with the flow and settled in.

“Young Master, do you need anything? My body belongs to you to command. Just treat me like cattle.” Song Lu blinked while smiling flirtatiously.

Hearing her words, Lin Yingmei furrowed her eyebrows. She did not like the way Song Lu talked one bit.

“Are there any books here? It would be great if you could find me a couple of books about the Liangshan Continent.” Shu Jing asked, ignoring not to hear her. Currently, there were too many mysteries in this Liangshan Continent. Lin Yingmei did not carry any such text on her body, and she was not suitable for teaching him. Know your enemy and yourself and you shall be invincible, how could he not understand this simple principle from Sun Tzu’s Art of War?

“Let me go ask for you.” In the blink of an eye, Song Lu had already skipped out of the room.

“Master, you must not let your guard down!” Waiting for her to finally leave, Lin Yingmei unreservedly remind Shu Jing.

“Do you think she is a Star Knight?” Shu Jing asked.

“This servant cannot sense any trace of Star Energy coming from her. There’s a possibility that she has an extremely high cultivation and is able to conceal her strength. Of course, she could also be a normal person.” Lin Yingmei shook her head. She did not possess extraordinary observing abilities. The only way for her to tell if someone was a Star Knight or not is to fight against them.

“I think she has many similarities to Star Knights.” Shu Jing smile and said.

Lin Yingmei was puzzled: “Why does Master say so?”

“Basically, she has this strange leisurely aura to her.” Shu Jing thought about how, ever since he met her, she has never for one moment seemed ordinary. Unlike normal people, she seems to have training and experience, even if she could not take care of the Blossoming Steel Tiger, she seemed to be sure she would be able to escape safely in the end. Being a soldier himself, Shu Jing

intuition's was very sensitive about these matters. Nine out of ten times his suspicions were always correct.

Lin Yingmei seemed to be deep in thought, with a cold voice she said, "Should we get rid of her?"

"She has no bloodthirst." Shu Jing has pondered about the reason why the girl was able to approach him so closely without causing him alarm. The reason was she did not seem to be hiding a trace of killing intent. No matter who they were, while harboring ill thoughts they will not be able to completely conceal their killing intent, and Shu Jing was the type who could read his opponents well. She did not have ill intents, so he did not hesitate to catch the falling Song Lu.

"This time, this servant really messed up."

"No need to worry, a man who can withstand pain is a true man." Shu Jing waved his hand. "I also cannot always be protected by you, this was a good opportunity for me to train."

Lin Yingmei did not disagree. As the Majestic Star Panther Head, she thought the words spoken by Shu Jing were truly worthy of the rightful master of Lin Chong.

In a moment, Song Lu came back into the room, carrying with her several bags. Looking at her dragging so many heavy bags, Shu Jing laughed: "Song Lu, don't tell me you have taken every single book in the entire village here!"

"That's right! These are all books that have been in our village since ancient times, some of them were even given by the village chief, and all of these are for Young Master to peruse." Song Lu's cheeks revealed shining dimples as she smiled.

"You didn't steal all of these right?"

"Of course not, hearing that Young Master wishes to read books, everybody in the village all gathered what they could. You are this village's savior, so it is only natural." Song Lu laughed. "I heard there are even some ancient hidden manuals in here, but many

people in our village have already tried and failed to comprehend them.”

Manuals?

Hearing this, Shu Jing’s eyes brighten. Currently, his biggest problem was that he lacked cultivation manuals. One must know, if a Star Cultivator had the help of a powerful Soul Technique or Martial Art, their strength would greatly increase.

But when Shu Jing thought about how Song Lu casually said she had found some cultivation manuals, a suspicion grew in his heart. How could he be so lucky to randomly run into some top-notch cultivation manual?

Finished reading the “cultivation manuals” Song Lu has brought him, Shu Jing felt like a bucket of cold water was splashed all over his head. What kind of legendary cultivation manual is this? What the heck are “Traversing the Heavens and Earth Lone Supreme Technique”, “Annihilating Brainless Palm” or “Overturning Oceans and Rivers Wave Unleashing Tactics”? The names were crude enough, but the contents themselves were even worse. In order to practice the Lone Supreme Technique, one must first castrate themselves, the Annihilating Brainless Palm requires one to annihilate their own brain first, while the Wave Unleashing Tactics is just a damn lecher technique. What’s more, there was one called Nine Revolution Indestructible Golden Body, which requires one to die first to cultivate it.

Heavens!

But he did find something that interested him. The Chaotic Tail Escape Technique, whose author is the Golden Toad Spiritual Master. The name sounds quite mysterious, but more importantly, the manual was comprehensive and clearly explained the training process step by step.

At a glance one could tell this manual was very useful, it was ordered logically in a standardised format. Especially important is that it lists Star Energy as a requirement for cultivating it. Furthermore, according to the manual, this escape technique was

truly powerful. It could make even gods and demons weep in vain.

This was a technique against the heavens. Even if the user's body was incomplete and they are barely hanging on to life, as long as one still has a glimmer of consciousness, they will be able to escape. Even a powerful enemy can only stand back and sigh.

This escape technique requires strong willpower to completely resist the surrounding interference, or it will be all for naught.

Shu Jing found this manual to be very suitable, so he asked Lin Yingmei and Song Lu about the Golden Toad Spiritual Master. Song Lu was not clear on who he was, and even after half a day of thinking, Yingmei could only say that it seems the Spiritual Master was most likely a wandering expert who had recorded down his findings for the later generations. This was enough to reassure Shu Jing, no matter what, he will just give it a try first.

According to the book, one's body must be injured in order to train this technique. If the body is completely unharmed, it will always fail. Shu Jing was still determined to try it out. Luckily, his legs were still wounded.

Next Shu Jing began to train following the Chaotic Tail Escape Technique manual. First, he must gather all his Star Energy and use it to attack his injuries. Being wounded is the most major requirement of this move, and once he had gathered all his power at the right place, he must then force it to ravage his body from inside and out. The Star Energy in his body began to sharpen as they head towards his leg and attacking it ceaselessly, causing him to experience unimaginable pain.

“Goddamn, it hurts!”

Shu Jing's eyes widened. He gasped and swallowed a mouthful of cold air.

108 Maidens of Destiny: Chapter 12 – Seeing Mountains as Mountains, Lakes as Lakes

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Seeing Mountains As Mountains, Lakes as Lakes

- TL: AmeryEdge
- ED: Azusky, LtBeefy, No1Fan

Standing next to him, Lin Yingmei's throat became dry and the knuckles on her fists turned ghostly white. She was worried that something unfortunate would happen to Shu Jing.

Less than a minute later, Shu Jing released the Star Energy blade and the pain subsided gradually. His forehead was drenched with sweat.

“This escape technique is really too strange.” Shu Jing thought quietly. This was only the beginning stage. According to Golden Toad Spiritual Master’s teachings, Chaotic Tail Escape Technique is divided into seven gates of seven, or 49 gates in total. In other words, his Star Energy must bombard his injuries 49 times, each time the pain will increase by thirty percent. Only when his entire body was covered in wounds and he was at the point of near death, would the Chaotic Tail Escape Technique reach the Large Success Stage.

Furthermore, this technique can only be trained three times a day. According to the author, this was the limit for cultivators, forcefully training it further would result in death.

Shu Jing finally understood why this manual was covered in dust

when he found it. Nobody would care about this pointless technique that requires you to suffer so greatly from the very beginning.

“Master, perhaps you should give it up.” Lin Yingmei said in distress.

Song Lu also seemed to be scared, “You probably shouldn’t try to learn this, I have never heard of anyone successfully learning it before.”

“I don’t believe that I will not be able to learn this technique today.” Shu Jing snorted.

He was still going to learn it, not because it was an exceptional movement technique, but because it had awakened his innate stubbornness. Shu Jing always thought that when it comes to determination, he was second to none, yet he still screamed out loud before.

As an elite soldier, this was a great dishonour. Shu Jing will stop only when he can’t try anymore. Let’s see if this technique is really that magical.

He then continued. The second time, he was still able to endure the pain. The third time, he was also able to hold on. Shu Jing was still able to think clearly, and he thought that he would go against the manual and attempt it the fourth time. This time, however, the pain was almost like he had died and been reborn, his body felt like it was immersed in fire.

But he still gnashed his teeth and held on. This startled both Lin Yingmei and Song Lu.

After four rounds, the first gate of the Chaotic Tail forty-nine gates was broken through. Shu Jing was truly at his limits.

The following days, Shu Jing diligently practiced the Chaotic Tail Escape Technique while sustaining his wounds. After suffering through the daily life threatening self-torture, he did not waste the rest of his time, but instead the hundreds of books Song Lu had brought him were cleanly read through as if he was a book-starved

mad man. Even after going through that unimaginable pain every day, he still spent so much time learning, with this kind of Willpower, even Lin Yingmei was startled.

But this daily grueling training has actually served to increase Shu Jing's willpower even more, and the process of learning the Chaotic Tail Technique became easier and easier.

On the seventh day, Shu Jing was delighted to find out that he had broken through the tenth gate, and his progress in the technique was now at the Small Success Stage.

A day later, after Shu Jing had experienced his daily mind numbingly painful four rounds of training, he laid down on a hammock and read the "Liangshan Heroes", a historical romance novel. It's a blend of facts and fiction recounting of famous heroes in this land in the past thousands of years, and while the information can be unreliable at best, it was still a good read for those wanting to learn the basic history of the continent.

After memorising it from cover to cover, Shu Jing casually picked up another book. The name of the book was "Song Village Secrets". The name of the book seems like it was just a common introductory text to Song Village. However, as his eyes glazed over it, something suddenly caught his interest.

"They even have one of those here?" Shu Jing happily shouted.

Lin Yingmei who was practicing her spear technique stopped in her tracks and turned to Shu Jing: "Master, what are you talking about?"

Just then, Song Lu also came inside the yard. Shu Jing asked: "Song Lu, is what's written in this book true?"

Song Lu came closer and took a look. The text Shu Jing was referring to was the part about the history of the village. Apparently, during the third year of the Star Duel, an enlightened monk had gone to Song Clan Village and hired people to build a "Mountain Lake Legacy". Whoever solves his legacy would obtain his most precious Soul Technique.

“I have heard of this before. We are near the Mountain Lake valley, and I believe that the reason the valley was named so was due to this story.” Song Lu said after thinking for some time.

“Bring me to look at it!” Shu Jing was very eager to try his hand this monument. It hasn’t been long since he has solved the Relic Blade Legacy’s puzzle, and he was still not very satisfied.

“But Young Master, your leg?”

Shu Jing smiled. He pointed at the distance with his finger. His figure shook, and in the blink of an eye he was already over dozens of metres away.

Both the girl were shocked. Song Lu seemed almost afraid, while Lin Yingmei was excited.

“Master, you have successfully learnt the Chaotic Tail Escape Technique?”

“Yeah, some small successes. I should not have any trouble with moving within a thousand metres.” Shu Jing laughed heartily.

“Young Master, you are so impressive!” Song Lu was stunned.

“But the name of this move is really quite bad. Later on when I reach the Large Success Stage, I must change its name.” Shu Jing said, “Song Lu, let us depart for the Mountain Lake valley to have a look.”

Song Lu looked up at the sky at the setting sun and said, “Why don’t we go tomorrow? Today is already getting late, and the Mountain Lake valley is also not very safe. Furthermore, Young Master has already gone through hard training today, and still needs to rest.”

Shu Jing thought that was reasonable. If they tripped some sort of trap, not being at their optimal state could really harm them.

The next day, after breakfast, Song Lu brought Shu Jing and Lin Yingmei towards the Mountain Lake valley as promised.

On the way, Shu Jing listened to Song Lu's stories and rumours about the Mountain Lake valley.

There was a time when the Mountain Lake Legacy was renowned all over the Liangshan Continent, because the enlightened monk was definitely a powerful individual. His Soul Technique was called the “Destroying Thousand Worlds Technique”, and countless Star Cultivators had once swarmed this place for a chance to obtain it. The valley has even seen its fair share of great battles resulting from the legacy's existence.

But in the few hundred years, its attraction slowly dwindle. After a sufficient amount of time, some rare artifacts or techniques would lose the guarantee of strength it once did, and its luster would dim. This Mountain Lake Legacy has never been solved by anyone. Eventually this Legacy along with stories about the enlightened monk was forgotten with time.

“If nobody has broken through it, wouldn't that mean it should be even more attractive to others?” Shu Jing was puzzled by the behaviour of the Liangshan Continent's cultivators.

“I don't know, but I hear that the legacy is just here to deceive people.” Song Lu laughed.

“Deceive people?”

“That's right, Song Village also used to have a formidable Star Cultivator who had ventured inside the legacy. Afterwards, when people mentioned it, he would just curse endlessly.” Song Lu said, “Others also became curious and went to have a look.”

“What was the result.”

“They just agreed wholeheartedly with him.” Song Lu replied.

“The more I hear about it the more interesting it seems.” The more difficult it is, the stronger his stubborn nature appears.

“Before heading there, they all acted like the current Young Master. Afterwards however, it was a different story.” Song Lu winked at him and said.

“Oh yeah, there is also a riddle attached to this legacy. Understanding this might be the key to discovering the legacy’s secret.”

“What riddle?”

Song Lu stroked her cheeks in deep thought, and then recited after sometime.

“See mountains as mountains, lakes as lakes; look at mountains not as mountains, lakes not as lakes. Discern that the mountains are still mountains, and lakes are still lakes.”

“What kind of gibberish is that?” Lin Yingmei sneered.

Shu Jing shook his head and smiled: “Yingmei, you shouldn’t say that. This is the three realms of life. Seems like there is something interesting here.” [1]

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(1) A reference to Wang Guowei’s Three Realms of Life, a classic Chinese philosophical poetry concept.

108 Maidens of Destiny: Chapter 13 – Xun Tian Daoist

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Xun Tian Daoist

- TL: AmeryEdge
- ED: Neth

Around them, the foliage was flourishing. The flora were as vibrant as royal embroideries. The mountain spring gave way to a shallow stream that cascades through the mountain. Within distance, a waterfall torrented downwards, exuding a fine layer of mist. The mountains and lakes gave off an incomparably quiet and peaceful ambience.

Even though Shu Jing had grown familiar with Liangshan Continent's poetic scenery within the past month, this sight still compelled him to pause and observe for awhile.

"Young Master, are you going stupid just from the view?" Song Lu lightly teased.

Shu Jing shrugged.

As they walked along the small path, it wasn't long until they encountered the sight of a large mountain, underneath of which stood four people deep in discussion.

As they neared the group, Shu Jing gradually began to make out their conversations.

"Motherfucker, what a waste of a trip. What kind of doggone Soul Technique can there be at that trash ruin?"

“I already warned you earlier not to buy into these things. This is something that appears only once every few hundred years. How could you be the one to solve it?”

“Damnit!”

Seeing Shu Jing’s group, the four people shared a look with each other and stopped talking. Shu Jing began evaluating all of them at once. Three men and a woman, with the lowest cultivation at Stardust Middle Stage. Among them, the Daoist monk holding the horsetail whisk seemed to have the greatest cultivation. He had most likely entered the peak of Stardust Late Stage.

The Daoist monk eyes’ brightened when he caught the sight of Lin Yingmei. The sentiment behind his gaze was an unpleasant one.

“Are you guys also here to explore?” Song Lu asked in a friendly manner.

Seeing that there was not even a trace of cultivation within Song Lu’s body, the monk only gave her a quick glance before his eyes focused on Lin Yingmei and Shu Jing.

“Friends, did you come here after hearing about the Mountain Lake legacy?”, the Daoist monk smiled and asked.

Friends?

Being called as such caught Shu Jing off guard. He laughed in reply, “We were just passing by, and conveniently decided to visit here.”

“To Stardust cultivators like us, these kinds of lesser legacies really are quite important. Unfortunately, I think you will also be disappointed.” The monk seemed regretful.

“Hearing that this Mountain Lake legacy had a 500 years long history, I’m not too hopeful either.” Shu Jing vaguely replied.

“Friend, that is a good attitude to have.” The monk stroked his beard and said.

Shu Jing also didn’t feel like wasting his breath on them. These three people were looking at Lin Yingmei with distasteful gazes;

their hearts full of hatred and envy for Shu Jing.

Lin Yingmei's expression remained ice cold. Even now, she hadn't even spared them a single glance.

"I'll go ahead to take a look."

Shu Jing lightly traded a look with Lin Yingmei before walking forwards.

The three other cultivators briefly glanced at each other before parting ways and allowing him to pass through.

Shu Jing smiled at them, then took Song Lu and Lin Yingmei to head inside the mountain, seemingly heading for the entrance of the legacy.

Waiting until Shu Jing walked off into the distance, the three male cultivators then brought out their weapons; intending to head back inside the ruins of the legacy.

"Everybody, do not act rashly." The Daoist monk casually spoke, causing the other three cultivators to pause.

"Xun Tian Daoist, what do you mean by that?" The female cultivator turned around, her expression dissatisfied.

"Isn't this the best time to kill them?" The man with a shiny bald gripped his hammer and spoke while laughing maliciously.

"Just a Stardust Early Stage cultivator. I alone am enough to take care of them." The last male nonchalantly added.

Xun Tian Daoist shook his head. He slightly waved the whisk and smiled, "Did you not notice the girl beside him?"

"It's just a Star Knight, that's all!" The man sneered, his eyes flashed a look of jealousy.

"I want to kill them precisely because she's a Star Knight. Who doesn't know that killing a Star Knight would improve your cultivation progress immensely? It might even allow them to

directly enter Liangshan Maiden Mountain.” The only female cultivator said with a shrill tone.

Xun Tian Daoist spoke, “I’m afraid that girl is no ordinary Star Knight.”

“What do we have to fear? Just look at that Star Master. His strength is completely ordinary. That Star Knight couldn’t be anyone that powerful.”

“If it was only an uncontracted Star Knight then perhaps, but just look at that Star Maiden who would even bond with that crippled young man... Ha ha, there is nothing to fear, even if it was Linchong we would be able to handle it!”

“Could it be that Xun Tian Daoist is actually scared? It’s truly a fortune that we encounter such a useless Star Master and Star Knight. I really don’t want to make this trip a complete waste.”

The cultivators firmly decided to pursue the Star Knight to gain her Star Energy.

Xun Tian Daoist slowly spoke, “Why don’t we wait for a little while more. Legends says that all legacies were created for Star Knights, perhaps they are able to solve the mystery of this place.”

The other three thought for awhile and nodded in agreement. No matter what, even if that Star Master with a broken leg wanted to run, he would not be able to escape. Killing a Stardust Early Stage cultivator was truly too easy. Thinking up to here, they headed back inside the ruins of the legacy.

“Yingmei, seems like our identities have been discovered.” Shu Jing whispered to Lin Yingmei.

The Majestic Star’s face remained unchanged as she harrumphed in acknowledgement. Seems like she had already anticipated such a situation to happen, “Only a few stinky ants, there’s no need to worry.”

Hearing Lin Yingmei, Shu Jing only laughed and said no more; his eyes once again focused on the ruins of the legacy.

Scenes of mountains and lakes decorated the walls of the hallway, but due to the passage of time as well as destruction by humans, the mural was damaged. One could still faintly make out the mountain, pagoda, waterfall, trees and other greeneries.

Seeing mountains as mountains, lakes as lakes.

Look at mountains not as mountains, lakes not as lakes.

He wondered about the mystery behind this mural and the clue.

Because Shu Jing had previously solved the Relic Blade legacy's puzzle from observation alone, Lin Yingmei felt a rare sense of anticipation within her heart. In her mind, she completely ignored this legacy and solely concentrated on Shu Jing as he searched for clues.

While looking around, Shu Jing suddenly frowned. He stopped in his tracks and calmly spoke, "What do you people need?"

Lin Yingmei and Song Lu turned around to look.

The group they had met outside the ruins of the legacy had all stepped out from the shadows. Apart from the Daoist, they all exuded an aura of contempt towards Shu Jing. The Daoist then stepped forward and laughed, "It seems like you have been injured, friend. I know some healing arts that may be able to help you."

"No need." Shu Jing straightforwardly rejected his offer, surprising Xun Tian.

Even though he didn't actually want to actually help Shu Jing, being rejected suddenly still caught him off guard.

"It's only a minor wound, there's no reason to trouble yourself, Daoist." Shu Jing explained.

"This one is called Xun Tian Daoist, I wonder, what should I call you two friends?"

"I'm Shu Jing, this is Lin Yingmei, and that is Song Lu." Shu Jing introduced his group in order.

Knowing that there was a Song Clan village nearby, these cultivators once again ignored Song Lu. They fixated their gazes on Lin Yingmei.

Xun Tian used this opportunity and excitedly spoke with Shu Jing. He was pretending to be considerate while attempting to bring up the subject of how Shu Jing had gotten injured.

Shu Jing could tell that he was only trying to figure out his background. In the military, he had already been through the ‘Interrogation and anti-interrogation’ training, and the tricks these people attempted to use in front of him was truly laughable. Shu Jing used this chance to turn their ploy against them. While avoiding to disclose any sensitive information, he began to ask them about themselves.

After speaking for some time, Xun Tian Daoist finally noticed something was off. His face changed as he laughed out loud, “I heard that the expert had left behind a mysterious riddle about this place, and solving it would lead to the solution of this Mountain Lake riddle. We should carefully look around here once more, and perhaps we might find some useful clues.”

“Good idea.” Shu Jing answered casually. In reality, his mind was fixated on the legacy the entire time.

The longer Shu Jing observed the design of this Mountain Lake legacy, the more intrigued he was.

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[1] [Horsetail Whisk](#)

108 Maidens of Destiny: Chapter 14 – None of You Have The Qualification

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None of You Have The Qualification

- TL: AmeryEdge
- ED: Istaripanda

The Mountain Lake legacy had quite an interesting design. The walls were decorated with painted murals and carvings, vaguely hinting at a glorious past. At the end of a long hallway, there was a square room. The room had been stripped clean of valuables. The only things left were the illustrations of mountains and lakes on its walls.

There was, however, a single lengthy block of stone lying still within the room.

The stone was of the common kind found at waterfalls. On it, a saying was carved.

“See mountains as mountains, lakes as lakes;
look at mountains not as mountains, lakes not as lakes.
Discern that the mountains are still mountains, and lakes are still lakes.”

“This seems to be in a strangely shabby state.” Shu Jing spoke. After lingering in the room for some time, he began to stare at the mural that was about to crumble at a moment’s notice.

“Friend, I heard that previously there were many cultivators who failed to solve the riddle of this legacy. They had turned this place upside down, not sparing even a small pebble, but they still failed

to find the Soul Technique the expert had left behind.” Xun Tian smiled and explained.

“If they damaged the room to this extent and still found nothing, the Soul Technique must have been found by the first person. That person must have pretended that nothing happened, leading all the others to waste their time.” Shu Jing casually said.

Xun Tian Daoist nodded, “That’s definitely a possibility!”

“But aren’t there some hidden traps or formations here?” Shu Jing clearly remembered that the Lesser Relic Blade he was at had hidden Spirit Engulfing Flood Dragons inside the Astral Gemstone. With that kind of trap, whoever entered would encounter some difficulty. But at a glance, this Mountain Lake legacy really seemed to be a forgotten ruin, completely broken and dilapidated. These decaying remnants caused Shu Jing to recall a saying: All beauty withers, all pretension fades.

“Perhaps there used to be one, but it must have already been destroyed.” Xun Tian Daoist replied.

“Oh, I wonder if Daoist could reveal the meaning behind this saying?” Shu Jing asked.

“Embarrassingly, my advancement in cultivation is too little, and I am still not enlightened about this matter.”

“Daoist!” One of the male cultivators couldn’t help but shout out a reminder when he saw Xun Tian Daoist and Shu Jing standing around exchanging pleasantries.

Xun Tian Daoist apologized and then turned and walked off. The group of people then suppressed their voice to a low whisper, so Shu Jing failed to hear whatever else they were talking about.

Shu Jing’s eyes return to the mountains and lakes on the walls of this room.

“Young Master, have you figured out the meaning of the saying?” Song Lu saw Shu Jing’s contemplating expression and asked curiously.

“This place definitely has a strong connection with that mountain and lake saying, but unfortunately it has been destroyed to the point of being almost unrecognisable. After all these years, even if there was originally some clue, it’s probably already gone. Wanting to figure it out is harder than climbing into the sky.” Shu Jing replied dejectedly.

Song Lu seemed somewhat disappointed.

Seeing her disappointment, Shu Jing chuckle quietly chuckle in his heart. He casually asked, “Song Lu, do you know the total number of sayings that are connected to this place?

“I heard there were 17.”

“That many?” Lin Yingmei asked in surprise.

“Very many. To my knowledge, some people have even found up to thirty kinds of mountain and lake sayings connected to this place.” Song Lu shook her head.

Shu Jing nodded, returning his attention to the mural.

Everyone who entered the legacy looked at the Mountain Lake mural in order to find clues. However, Shu Jing was only briefly interested in it. He gave it a quick look over before moving onto other areas, his demeanor carefree. At a glance, one can tell that he was not really paying much attention.

“Daoist?” The female cultivator’s eyes were as cold as ice.

Xun Tian Daoist raised his arm, signalling for them to not be too impatient.

He began to put up a front of searching for clues in the legacy. When the others saw the most powerful cultivator there, the Daoist, not saying anything, their faces could only darken and they stayed quiet.

A while later, Shu Jing smacked his lips in an exaggerated yawn.

“Ying Mei, let us go, there’s nothing here to see.” Shu Jing turned around and left.

Xun Tian Daoist greeted them, “Friend, have you finished viewing this place? Did you find anything interesting?”

“It has been here for hundred of years, yet no one has found anything. What could I and my little bit of deductive power do?” Shu Jing laughed and said. His outward appearance was that of someone who had really lost all interest in this legacy.

“Then I really don’t have any method either.” The Daoist spoke regretfully.

“In that case, let us depart.”

Shu Jing brought Lin Yingmei and Song Lu to leave.

Xun Tian’s smile turned malicious, and he glanced at the other eyes of the other three people. They immediately followed his train of thought, revealing fierce expressions.

“Let’s go!”

The four of them acted at the same time.

Four small steel knives flew directly towards Shu Jing’s back with no hesitation.

Sounds of metal colliding rang out.

The small knives were deflected by a single flash of blue light.

Lin Yingmei who was on guard this entire time casually turned around. Without even lifting her arm, she had resolved all their attacks.

“Friends, what are you trying to do?” Shu Jing smiled icily.

Seeing Lin Yingmei easily deflecting their attacks, their faces became temporarily stunned. Only when they remembered that they all had the advantage of higher cultivation level did they calmed down.

“We just want to be enlightened by a Star Master. Isn’t it dangerous

to walk around with your Star Knight in the open?" Xun Tian Daoist made some small talk.

"Ah, Star Knight? What are you guys talking about?" Song Lu was startled.

Shu Jing looked at her for a while, then turned his unchanging expression towards the cultivators. "What do you mean?"

"Daoist, why are you wasting words with this useless cultivator? Let's directly kill him." The impatient bald cultivator threw out a hammer that was radiating intense killing intent, causing the air to turn numb.

His Stardust Middle Stage cultivation was also no longer contained. He was really planning to kill in one move.

Although he was in a narrow space without room to retreat, Shu Jing remained calm as the weapon flew toward his forehead. It even almost seemed like he was ignoring it.

A sharp metallic colliding sound rang out inside the quiet legacy, a noise that was piercing to the ears.

A silver spear stopped the large hammer in its tracks. There was a flash of light, and a person appeared between the hammer and Shu Jing, her hair long and flowing, her bright aura chilling to the bone.

It was, of course, Lin Yingmei and her serpent spear.

"I knew it, you are a Star Knight!" The nervous cultivator shouted.

"Watch as I turn you into minced meat." The large man laughed, all his strength concentrating on the hammer. The pressure he gave off was like that of a mountain.

Yingmei grunted in disdain and spun the spear counter clockwise. A cold light slashed out as if it was a god of death.

At that moment, the hammer was suddenly split in half.

The large man's smile was immediately replaced by a stunned look.

A sort of fear penetrated deep into his soul, and he scrambled to think of a way to retaliate. But a cold chill had already made its way into his heart, causing it to feel like it had frozen stiff, and completely stopped him from making any movement.

There was almost no one there who could tell how this happened.

Lin Yingmei gently pulled out her spear. Quietly, the spear tip that pierced directly through the large man's heart showed itself.

The cultivators shook in fear.

“Watch out, she’s a Combat Star Knight!”

Xun Tian Daoist was paying attention. At a glance he could tell Lin Yingmei was extraordinary. He immediately dashed out, releasing the aura of a late stage cultivator with the power of a Stardust Late Stage Technique assisting him. The aura surrounded the narrow legacy walls.

The two other cultivators also unleashed their strength. A small knife and sword followed the wind and flew towards Shu Jing. They also understood that to deal with a Star Knight, killing their Star Master was the easiest method.

Lin Yingmei smiled coldly. She jumped lightly, her Arctic Star Serpent Spear breaking apart their overwhelming weapons with ease. Seeing their weapons being destroyed so quickly, the cultivators' faces grew even more frightened. They now realised that the Star Knight in front of them was no ordinary Stardust Early Stage cultivator.

“Want to harm my master? None of you have the qualification!”

Lin Yingmei coldly asserted.

108 Maidens of Destiny: Chapter 15 – Thousand Threads Myriad Silk Binding Technique

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Thousand Threads Myriad Silk Binding Technique

- TL: AmeryEdge
- ED: LtBeefy

“Lin Chong... she’s the Panther Head Lin Chong!” Recognising the Arctic Star Serpent Spear, Xun Tian Daoist shouted out fearfully.

“Impossible, why would Lin Chong sign a Star Duel Covenant contract?” The two remaining cultivators shook in fear. Even the face of the female cultivator who previously bragged that she could take on even Lin Chong was now deathly pale.

“Don’t panic, let’s kill her Master immediately!” Xun Tian Daoist called out. He was once again the first to regain his composure. His whisk continuously spun, causing several white silk threads to rise, turning into serpents.

“Northern Dipper Heavenly Stars, Immeasurable Earthen Towers, rise!” Xun Tian mumbles, his whisk suddenly coming to life, causing thousands of white silk threads in the shape of serpents to form a massive whirlpool. From inside the whirlpool, countless serpents emerge, their power utterly terrifying.

Seeing that, his two companions also pulled out their trump cards without hesitation. A turquoise bracelet flew out from the female cultivator’s wrist. It quickly expanded in size by a dozen-fold, releasing a bright green aura as it flew directly towards Shu Jing.

The man also took out a small metal spear blade. The tiny three-inch blade shot out from his palm, following the wind and expanding its size to that of a large metal spear. Even though they were only low-levelled Artifacts, the weapons have been infused with all of their remaining power and had an immense pressure.

“Yingmei, be a little careful!” Shu Jing reminded her.

Yingmei’s lips slightly curved into a cocky smile. Her spear flickered. Chilling beams of cold light radiated as she thrusted forward with her spear, each beam of light releasing a suction pressure towards the Artifacts.

The spear danced like a flower in the wind.

The turquoise bracelet resounded with a crack as the spear shatters it into fragments. The extremely fast blade next to it seemed like it was going to be able to dodge Yingmei’s attack, but her spear suddenly vibrated, and in the next moment the blade was cut into two by the cold blue spear light.

The two cultivators panicked, even though they knew about the Majestic Star and her indomitable strength that was among the most powerful in the entire world, her impenetrable attacks were beyond their expectation. What’s more, right now she was being limited by the Star Duel Covenant as a contracted star. In theory, she was far from her peak strength. With fear clouding their mind, the only thought they were capable of thinking of was fleeing.

“Friends, please stay!” Xun Tian Daoist called out loudly.

A haunting scream echoed.

The female cultivator who turned around to run revealed a fatal weak point, and Yingmei took advantage of that without hesitation. Her spear shot through her chest cleanly. When the male cultivator heard the scream, he also turned to flee, but Yingmei’s second attack was already upon him. Before his eyes could make out the attack, his neck suddenly felt cold, and a sharp blade directly penetrated his throat, taking his life.

Fresh blood streamed out from his mouth. The male cultivator's eyes widened, as if he couldn't believe that he would die like this.

Xun Tian Daoist wore an extremely ugly expression. He never thought Star Knights were that powerful. Just a quick confrontation had already cost his three companions their lives. He abandoned all hesitation and unleashed the full limit of his Late Stage Stardust power. The whisk in his hand turned into countless silk serpents, completely surrounding the area.

Song Lu was so scared she scrambled to hide behind Shu Jing.

Yingmei pulled out the Arctic Star Serpent Spear and slashed at the serpents.

The white silk immediately wrapped around her weapon. No matter how she maneuvered, the spear still wouldn't move an inch.

Suddenly realising that his move had worked, the old Daoist grinned: "My Dragon Binding Whisk is a Nebula Stage Artifact, even if you are the Majestic Star, it's still enough to finish you off!" "Thousand Threads Myriad Silk Binding Technique, go!" The silk followed his commands and spun madly, as if they were all serpents leaving shore, their aura terrifying to behold.

In the blink of an eye, the room was surrounded in white silk.

Yingmei's Arctic Star Serpent Spear was completely wrapped up. The enemy was both a Late Stage Stardust cultivator and was in possession of a Nebula Artifact, even the Panther Head could only retreat back to her Master's side. "Young Master, let's leave!"

"Right now, it's my turn to protect you." Shu Jing stared at the overwhelming Silk Serpent with abnormally calm eyes.

Xun Tian Daoist smiled coldly: "Even though you are such a useless Star Master, you still dare to speak such arrogant words? Today this Daoist will teach you the meaning of regret!" The Daoist hurriedly mumbled his chant, causing the silk threads on his whisk to grow thicker and thicker. The Arctic Star Serpent Spear that was swallowed inside the whisk released a sharp bright light, seeming like it had been weakened by the silk threads.

Shu Jing's eyebrows perked. His pace forward quickened.

Suddenly, his body disappeared, as if it was made from nothing but mist.

Xun Tian Daoist was shocked still in place.

What kind of movement technique is this??

Even though he couldn't sense the activation of any movement technique, Shu Jing still disappeared right in front of his eyes.

Xun Tian Daoist quickly chanted inwardly.

At that exact moment, a chilling killing intent appeared from behind.

Not good!

Xun Tian was terrified. From the corner of his eye, he could see Shu Jing appearing from behind, in his hand a silver Artifact. Even though Xun Tian Daoist's Thousand Threads Myriad Silk Binding Technique was extremely formidable, there was a crucial weakness when used in this cramped space. While the technique could push the enemy to their death from the front, it left his back completely defenseless.

Even a child could stab him to death from behind right now.

Of course, no matter what, Xun Tian Daoist was a Late Stage Stardust cultivator, so he would not fumble just because of such a move. Once he sensed Shu Jing's strange appearance, the Daoist quickly formed a seal with his left hand.

Shu Jing lifted up the Silver Blade in his right hand.

“Bang!”

Dead on!

Silver light flashed by, heading directly for Xun Tian Daoist right between his eyes. Sounds of the bullet passing through his skull

resounded.

The Daoist's jaws was stuck open, his eyes in disbelief about his own demise. It's hard to criticise him, Liangshan Continent's so-called Stardust Artifacts were the lowest of the low in power. Perhaps by infusing them with Star Energy their power would increase somewhat, with some at best able to control their size.

These kind of weapons would look impressive, but facing a real Artifact they would be almost useless. For example, Yingmei's personal Arctic Star Serpent Spear could easily cut these apart.

From the perspective of Xun Tian Daoist, Shu Jing's Artifact was completely out of the ordinary. Only a loud sound was produced, then a silver light carrying Star Energy with it would shoot out. The speed of the silver light was abnormally fast. In a moment it was already in front of his eyes. This kind of speed, even Nebula Stage Artifacts would not be able to achieve it.

Xun Tian did not shame his title of being a Late Stage cultivator. Even after he was shot, he still refused to fall down. He screamed out, his limbs moved, waving the whisk up temporarily, shooting out silk threads.

Bang!

As Xun Tian Daoist was retaliating, another bullet shot through his brain.

It was not possible to clearly detect the speed of such a weapon, and the silk whisk was completely incapable of stopping it.

“I, am, not... satisfied!”

Xun Tian Daoist screams out in tears, his eyeballs bulging. He died with his eyes wide opened.

The moment he died, the stream of energy connected to the silk whisk was terminated, and it promptly fell to the ground. The overwhelming pressure emitted by the Serpent dissipated as it retreated back inside the whisk, transforming into a seemingly normal object.

Shu Jing kissed Silver Blade lightly. He lowered his gun and went toward the Daoist's body.

Yingmei breathed out softly when she saw that. She picked up the Arctic Star Serpent Spear and also approached the body. Song Lu however remained stunned in place. She was not able to see what happened due to the silk threads blocking the view of whatever happened behind the Daoist. There was only a strange loud sound, then the Daoist had fallen.

Looking at Shu Jing the fear in her eyes disappeared in a flash. Her clear eyes flickered and a strange smile appeared on her face. It was impossible to tell what she was thinking.

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108 Maidens of Destiny: Chapter 16 – Solving The Riddle

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Solving The Riddle

- TL: AmeryEdge
- ED: LtBeefy

These four cultivators are really quite stingy, there wasn't even a single Astral Bag on their bodies! This disappointed Shu Jing greatly.

Shu Jing did not have any interest in their various offensive weapons, nor did he care about the decorative jewellery on their bodies. At last, it seems like only Xun Tian Daoist possessed any wealth.

A Nebula stage Artifact “Dragon Binding Whisk”, some valuable Blood Stones, a bottle of “Qi Restoration Liquid”, a bottle of “All Grains Pills” and two pieces of “Clear Wind Talismans”, of which he had no idea how to make use of. Aside from that, there was also a compass, an introductory book on Legacies and an ancient map.

Opening up the ancient map, they found out a little information on Legacies.

There were several places circled on the map, as if to indicate they have already been explored. It seems like they were relying on this map to hunt for treasures.

“Even though Young Master failed to solve the Mountain Lake riddle, this wasn't a wasted trip. This daoist priest is really quite considerate!” Lin Yingmei looked at the daoist who had died

without closing his eyes and smiled chillingly. In her hand, the Arctic Star Serpent Spear that had its energy absorbed by the Thousand Threads Myriad Silk Binding Technique was glowing dim and pale.

Perhaps this was the reason behind the Majestic Star's simmering anger.

"This Mountain Lake riddle isn't actually that complicated." Shu Jing smiled mysteriously.

The two girls seemed dumbfounded.

"Could it be that Young Master had successfully understood the meaning behind the riddle?" Lin Yingmei asked skeptically.

Song Lu also asked in alarm: "Young Master, are you joking around? You yourself said that you won't be able to solve the problem that have taken others hundreds of years in the span of a few cups of tea."

"It's only a guess." Shu Jing said while immediately heading out of the Legacy, "I don't dare to claim to be sure yet. It's so stuffy in here, let's go outside for a bit."

...

The Mountain Lake Valley was refreshing and relaxing, in contrast to the heavy ominous pressure inside the Legacy.

Shu Jing casually strolled through the quiet scenery, his expression serene.

The two girls followed behind him, confused. If Shu Jing really did figure out the riddle, he should be rushing off to grab the legendary top-tiered Soul Technique instead of nonchalantly walking like this.

After circling the valley several times, Shu Jing finally went towards a waterfall. He drank a mouthful of clear water and sat down on a nearby rock and began to quietly enjoy the relaxing sound of falling water.

“Young Master, in the end, what are you trying to do?” Song Lu stared at him incredulously.

Looking at the surrounding scenery, Shu Jing avoided her question. “Song Lu, let me ask you something.”

“Young Master, go ahead.” Song Lu’s seductive eyes were breathtaking as they focused towards Shu Jing.

Shu Jing however remained calm as he asked: “You said that this Mountain Lake Valley was named after the Legacy, so I just want to ask, was the Legacy named by that great monk himself?”

“I’m not too sure myself, but I did hear that after the Legacy was completely constructed, Song Clan Village suddenly heard the ringing of bells and drums that resonated a message in all of their minds, claiming that from then on the name of this place shall be Mountain Lake, and that’s where it got its name from.” Song Lu thought for a little while, then suddenly asked curiously: “Young Master, how did you know?”

“If that’s so, it seems like we have some hope.” Shu Jing laughed out loud and took off his outer coat, leaving only the undergarment on.

“Young Master, be careful of your injuries!” Even though Lin Yingmei seemed uncaring on the outside, her eyes couldn’t help but peek at the nearly naked Shu Jing.

On the contrary, Song Lu revealed a sensual smile: “Young Master, you want us to join you in a mixed bathing session?”

“You guys wait here.” Shu Jing spoke, then turned around and jumped into the lake.

In but a moment, Song Lu immediately saw his body appearing behind the waterfall. Before she could figure out what to think, Shu Jing suddenly flew high up onto the side of the waterfall cave walls, then using the surrounding, he made his way towards a tree branch.

Lin Yingmei couldn’t help but glance at him questioningly.

“What is Young Master up to?” Song Lu was still confused.

“The Young Master must have his own plans.” Lin Yingmei replied reservedly.

“Ah, could it be that he really did solve the riddle?” Song Lu’s voice was still laced in doubt.

Lin Yingmei’s expression shifted slightly, her eyes looking towards Shu Jing full of hope.

Song Lu however remained skeptical.

After some time, Shu Jing jumped down from atop the tree and began inspecting the ground underneath the water surface. Ten minutes later, there was suddenly an excited cheer coming from Shu Jing’s location.

“Found it!”

Shu Jing made his way back to the lakeshore and put his clothes back on. After spending so much time, he finally managed to find what he wanted inside the water: A strange-shaped rock.

“What does that have to do with the riddle?” Song Lu stared, her eyes questioning.

“Follow me.”

Shu Jing followed the shore towards the waterfall, this time with Lin Yingmei and Song Lu behind him.

Behind the waterfall, there were only the cave walls and nothing else.

“This is...” Lin Yingmei called out in a startled tone.

The Majestic Star really did have exceptional eyesight. With a glance, she was able to detect that there was a strange indent on the wall of the cave. If this was a normal situation, it wouldn’t really be anything special since strange shaped dents form in nature all the time. However, the peculiar thing was the dent had the same shape

as the rock Shu Jing had retrieved from inside the river.

Shu Jing held the rock and jumped towards the indent and connected the two together. At that moment, there was a loud rumbling that echoed across the cave, and a huge hole suddenly opened up from the mountain side, shocking everyone standing there.

“Ah, there was such a contraption behind the waterfall!” Song Lu covered her mouth and looked at Shu Jing with reverence.

But that wasn’t all that was shocking about this situation. Stepping inside, they discovered a complex network of secret halls along with a massive sentence carved into the walls.

It was clearly the same familiar Mountain and Lake saying, but this time underneath it laid a small new sentence, “Congratulation on solving the riddle — Ming Jing!”

Right beneath the sentence there was a chest.

“Could it be!!!”

Lin Yingmei’s body shivered in excitement.

“Un, this is definitely the Technique left behind the great monk.” Shu Jing breathed out softly.

“Impossible, shouldn’t it be inside the Legacy?” Song Lu said in panic, “Why is it here?”

“Misdirection.” Shu Jing smiled.

“What?”

Song Lu could not decipher what he meant.

“What was your initial solution when you first heard the riddle?” Shu Jing asked her.

“Of course it meant that it was connected to the Mountain Lake Legacy.” Song Lu replied. In reality, all those who wish to solve the

Mountain Lake riddle would have thought about the exact same place to begin.

“This was a deliberate misdirection.” Shu Jing explained: “Everybody was misled into thinking that the Mountain Lake Legacy was where the treasure resided, when in reality it was hidden right here!”

“But how did Young Master figure this out?” Song Lu frowned. Liangshan Continent’s Star Cultivators have had hundreds of years to figure this out, yet Shu Jing only required the time it took to make a few cups of tea.

This was almost too exaggerated.

“Based on the hidden intent.” Shu Jing smiled and replied. The Mountain Lake Legacy, its painting, carvings and writings are about mountains and lakes, even artificial mountains and lakes were built here, combining with everything else, Song Lu estimates that there was nearly twenty possible things that was connected to the riddle.

While other cultivators were wasting thinking about the connections between all of these things, Shu Jing immediately thought about how suspicious it was that all the Mountain Lakes imageries were so overtly obvious, as if they were designed to attract all the attention to themselves.

If he intentionally wanted to attract the attention of people towards a particular place, there could only be one reason: he wanted to hide the real location.

Shu Jing was not unfamiliar with this concept. The arts of war famously had Feint from the East and Attack from the West, even modern Air Force military use the concept of bait in warfare. Seeing the ruins inside the legacy and hearing about the countless people that have turned the place upside down searching it reinforced to him that the Legacy itself was simply a distraction. That’s why he had quickly lost interest after briefly looking through the Legacy.

“Young Master, how did you find out about the actual location?” Lin Yingmei did her best to reign in her turbulent emotions and

asked. They were currently inside a waterfall hidden extremely well, there was also an invisible force hiding it from Divine Soul searches. People from the outside would definitely not be able to find this place.

“Of course thanks to the riddle.” Shu Jing answered: “See mountains as mountains, lakes as lakes, meaning not the Mountain Lake Legacy but the actual surrounding mountains and lakes. Hence, mountains truly as mountains, lakes truly as lakes.”

“Then what does the line “look at mountains not as mountains, lakes not as lakes” means?”

“Reflections!”

Shu Jing smiled.

Both Lin Yingmei and Song Lu widened their eyes.

“The Legacy will be nearby a waterfall, and based on the reflection of the lake, the answer will lie under water. The key itself will clearly still be difficult to find.”

Shu Jing gently explained it like it was an extremely simple matter. When they finished listening, Lin Yingmei who was always aloof and proud could maintain her composure, but Song Lu couldn’t help but shout excitedly.

“Young Master, you are too awesome, for the past hundreds of years no one in Liangshan Continent has managed to solve this riddle, but you already figured it out in a few hours. Isn’t that right, Yingmei?” Song Lu exclaims.

Lin Yingmei nodded.

“The architect of this entire riddle is the real formidable one here.” Shu Jing grinned, in contrast from the Relic Blade puzzle, this Mountain Lake Legacy contained no overwhelming ambush nor scary traps. Instead it was from beginning to end a psychological trick that played around with countless cultivator’s mind.

Indeed worthy of the title of Great Monk!

“Young Master, you are making this maiden dying to gift you her body in admiration.” Song Lu said shyly.

Shu Jing rolled his eye: “Let us see what the Great Monk had actually left behind for us first, and why it was hidden so carefully that it had made fools of all the cultivators for so long.”

“Good idea.” Even Lin Yingmei seemed to be anxious.

They looked at the surrounding, but aside from the chest there were no other items.

Shu Jing breathed in deeply, and observed the chest.

There was no locks nor secret mechanism on the chest, and one could simply push it opened easily.

Looking inside, both Lin Yingmei and Song Lu both stared at the chest in stunned silence.

Shu Jing spat out a curse toward the lying deceitful old man who was behind this.

Inside, there was nothing!

“But how could this be?” Lin Yingmei suspiciously held up the lid and quickly used her Divine Soul to search the chest.

There was nothing that seemed out of the ordinary.

“I never would have thought that the riddle was a sham in the end.” The Majestic Star spoke out angrily, frauds have always been the kind of people she hated the most.

Shu Jing carefully inspected the inside, but alas there was nothing he could collect. He could only shake his head in vain.

“Either somebody had already made it here before us, or we are simply the latest people to be fooled by this.”

“Could it be that aside from Young Master, somebody else also figured out the riddle?” Lin Yingmei asked coldly.

“It can’t be, if it was really solved, the key wouldn’t have remained inside the lake.” Song Lu hesitated.

“Forget it, if it’s simply not part our fate, then there’s nothing we can do even if we want to. Let us go.” Shu Jing calmly recollect himself from the mental blow, then turned around and walked away.

No anger nor regret, as if none of it happened.

His indifference caused both Lin Yingmei and Song Lu to feel moved.

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108 Maidens of Destiny: Chapter 17 – Crown Prince Gou Zi

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Crown Prince Gou Zi

- TL: AmeryEdge
- ED: Jafz

Grand Border Fortress.

This fortress is Thousand Mount Kingdom's most crucial stronghold. It is over three hundred miles away from Song Clan Village, and the current commander was the kingdom's Crown Prince, Gou Zi.

Speaking of Gou Zi, while in the midst of his fight for the throne, he had suddenly volunteered to become a frontier commander, shocking the entire Thousand Mount Kingdom. Many in private would call him a fool who valued pride more than the big picture, but little did they know that between becoming an Emperor and a Star Master, he was more interested in the latter. That's the reason why he has been staying at the Grand Border Fortress these past few years while keeping a low profile. He was diligently enticing star cultivators to become his subordinate or guests, and in a few short years, he amassed a surprisingly large number of experts.

Now, the Grand Border Fortress even has two Nebula cultivators as guests.

Ever since the battle stars had risen up into the sky and the Star Duel began, Gou Zi had successfully broken through and entered the ranks of star cultivators. He had then set up a strict surveillance network in the fort in the hope of catching and defeating a Star Knight, and in turn, becoming a Star Master. At that time, he would

be able to ascend Liangshan Maiden Mountain, making his reputation all the more glorious.

Today, like every other day, Gou Zi was standing atop the pavilion balcony observing the distant sky.

The hundred stars were shining brilliantly.

“Yet another Crimson Star.”

Gou Zi mumbled in annoyance. Every time a star turned deep red, his heart felt like it was being cut. It meant that there were yet another Star Master in Liangshan Continent.

“Heavens has no eyes, do I not have the qualification to become a Star Master?”

Gou Zi cursed from the bottom of his heart.

After his small tantrum, Gou Zi resumed reminding his subordinate to pay close attention to all travelling cultivators, hoping to meet a Star Knight.

Suddenly, a soldier came bearing news: “Your Highness, there’s someone who wishes to meet you outside the gate.”

“What kind of person?” Gou Zi asked casually.

“He did not say. He only said that once Your Highness sees this letter, you will understand.” The soldier used both his hand to present a letter.

The cultivator beside him stepped forward to retrieve the letter for Gou Zi.

The moment he opened the letter, Gou Zi’s expression suddenly changed.

“Quickly, summon him here!”

Someone whose entire body was covered in a cloak was guided by the soldier inside. Gou Zi’s eyes followed him closely.

“Everyone, leave!”

Gou Zi ordered.

Soon, the only people left inside the room were those two.

“Can you really do what you promised?” Gou Zi could not contain himself. “Can you really help me become a Star Master? What’s more, a Heavenly Star Knight’s Master?”

“I do not dare to joke about this matter.” A calm voice rang out from inside the cloak.

Gou Zi paced back and forth, his eyes narrowing, as if wishing to see through the cloaked figure in front of him. “Why won’t you show your face?”

“Once you see my face, you will die!”

The voice continued calmly. Gou Zi’s body suddenly shuddered, an impossibly bad feeling well up inside him.

“What do you want as payment?”

Gou Zi asks coldly.

“The Babel Token.”

What?

Gou Zi was stunned still.

“Can’t you do it?”

The other person casually asked.

Gou Zi hesitated. It had taken a lot of his resources to acquire the Babel Token from another cultivator. Using it, one can enter the “Babel Tomb”, one of the “Seven Ancient Tombs”. Even his two prestigious guests did not know about it, so how did this person find out?

But realistically, if he did not have a Star Knight accompanying

him, there wasn't much hope of surviving even if he entered the Ancient Tomb.

After pondering for some time, Gou Zi gnashed his teeth and replied determinedly: "As long as you can help me become a Star Master, not only will I give you the token, I will also give you a thousand tael of gold as payment!"

"Excellent!"

The other person smiled.

"However, I have a requirement. I want to sign a contract with a Heavenly Star. Can you make this happen?" Gou Zi asked anxiously.

"I'll give you one better..." He smiled. "How about Majestic Star Linchong?"

"Ah?" Gou Zi's jaws dropped. He thought he must have heard wrongly. "What? Lin... Linchong?"

"The famous Panther Head Linchong!"

"Impossible. Of course I know about the Majestic Star, there has never been anyone who has successfully signed a contract with her!" Gou Zi was shocked.

"You only have to follow my instructions..."

The other person assured the Prince.

Some time later, Gou Zi finished listening to the plan. At the beginning, he was suspicious, but now he had become somewhat convinced. This plan sounded like it had everything under control, and Gou Zi felt that this was no ordinary matter. Star Maidens were already extremely rare in Liangshan Continent, one would usually revere such a figure when running into them, so don't even talk about Linchong, who is one of the top ten Star Knights. If he really could sign a contract with Linchong, Gou Zi believed that the Liangshan Maiden's prize already belonged to him.

"When everything goes according to plan, do not forget what you

must do.”

The other person left behind that casual statement, and by the time Gou Zi had gathered his wits again, the person had already disappeared from the room.

Could that have been a Star Hunter?

Gou Zi’s fist tightened, his heart once again overcoming with a sense of unease. He called out loudly: “Quickly, summon the two elders here, tell them there are important matters that we must discuss!”

In the blink of an eye, a month passed by in Song Clan Village. Ever since their trip to the Mountain Lake Legacy, Shu Jing’s life has also returned to a peaceful rhythm. Even though the resolution to his solving of the riddle was quite disappointing, Shu Jing did not let it affect him as he returned to his daily training with the Chaotic Tail Escape Technique. When he wasn’t doing that, he would be sparring with Lin Yingmei or reading books.

As these days of intense training went by, Shu Jing’s Chaotic Tail Escape Technique broke through to the 13th Gate.

There were 49 Gates in the Chaotic Tail Escape Technique, with every seven gates marking a Stage. Shu Jing planned to break through the Second Stage of the Chaotic Tail Escape Technique, then he would have no fear even if he ran into Xun Hou.

One day.

From outside the village, sounds of galloping horses interrupted Shu Jing’s training. From several miles away, one could sense a heavy killing intent radiating.

Lin Yingmei who was leaning nearby suddenly turned alertful: “Master!”

“Let us see what it’s about first.” Shu Jing decided.

The galloping drew closer and closer. In but a few moments it had approached very close by. Lin Yingmei frowned, her body tensed up in preparation.

Bang!

The courtyard's door was blown apart with a single kick, followed by a group of cavalry rushing in.

The cavalryman surrounded the yard and glared at Shu Jing and Lin Yingmei.

“The crown prince's servants are waiting. Song Lu, quickly come out here!”

The leading general shouted loudly.

“May I ask the reason why you sirs are looking for this young maiden?” Hearing the loud summon, Song Lu opened her door. Seeing the fierce scene in front of her, her face immediately went pale.

“You are Song Lu?”

“This maiden's name is indeed Song Lu.” Song Lu quickly replied.

“Catch her!”

The soldier shouted coldly.

Song Lu's face looked like it had not a drop of blood left.

Several soldiers followed each other in a line and headed towards Song Lu to catch her.

“What are you doing?!”

Shu Jing coldly interjected.

The soldiers who were heading for Song Lu were scared stiff by Shu Jing's aura. Song Lu quickly hid behind Shu Jing.

“Brat, who are you? Quickly get out of here, this has nothing to do

with you!” A cavalryman casually spoke out.

Just as he finished speaking...

A dark silhouette abruptly leapt forward, causing the loud-mouth cavalryman to immediate cry out in pain before falling straight to the ground. On the horse now was Shu Jing.

The surrounding soldiers were shocked still. No one would have thought that the young man would attack after just a single line of provocation. Only when the general shouted loudly did they all march forward without hesitation.

Using only a single finger, Shu Jing shot out Star Energy that promptly pushed all of them back simultaneously.

“A star cultivator!”

“It’s a star cultivator!”

The soldiers called out in shock while running off in all directions. In Liangshan Continent, star cultivators were in the same realm as lesser gods, how could these soldiers dare to continue to fight?

Shu Jing did not pay them any attention and headed towards the general who was moaning on the ground to collect his loot.

The soldier stood up wanting to run away, but he was promptly pushed down by a single one of Lin Yingmei’s kick, immobilising him completely.

“Great lord, please spare my life. I was only following orders...” The man squealed out like a pig, his demeanour sore to the eyes.

In the blink of an eye, the entire courtyard was emptied of soldiers.

“Such terrible constitutions.” Shu Jing shook his head.

“Do you want to kill him?” Shu Jing threw the problem towards Song Lu.

The girl was stunned silent by Shu Jing’s question that rang like

thunder in her ears. She quickly shook her head: “He is crown prince Zi’s man, you cannot kill him.”

“The crown prince? Why is he looking for you?”

Shu Jing was puzzled about the relationship between a crown prince and a random village girl.

Song Lu hesitate.

“Why does the crown prince want to catch Song Lu?” Shu Jing slaps the man’s face gently. Seeing the hint from Shu Jing’s eye, Lin Yingmei’s increased the pressure of her foot on the soldier’s back.

“I really don’t know...” The man yelled in fear.

“Young Master, just let him go.” Song Lu sighed deeply. She looked toward the general and said full of hatred: “Tell the crown prince to give this Song Lu ten days. I will definitely find and give him what he wants.”

“Yes, I will definitely pass on lady Song Lu’s message!” The man acted like he had received some sort of amnesty as he gratefully fled.

Shu Jing and Lin Yingmei shifted their eyes towards Song Lu, waiting for an explanation. Shu Jing didn’t treat this as some sort of small problem. As he had relied on Song Lu for some time now, Shu Jing could feel that even though on the outside, she seemed sly and calculating, her heart could be considered to be good, and he would not mind lending a hand to her.

Coming from someone who’s a guest from another world in this Liangshan Continent, this was a genuine feeling of goodwill.

“Truthfully, on that day when Young Master met me, I was out on a search for a certain rock. Unfortunately, I ran into the Blossom Tiger.” Song Lu sighs.

“What kind of rock?”

“Relic Blade Stone!”

Shu Jing shifted his eyes towards the Majestic Star. The girl's expression did indeed light up violently as he expected.

According to Song Lu's story, her real identity was the Grand Border Fortress's crown prince Gou Zi's Scoutmaster. The so-called Scoutmaster's job was to search for precious stones and crystals.

Once, Song Lu managed to find Relic Blade Stone near this area. This caused Prince Gou Zi to become greedy and he sent her out to continuously find more. That time when she ran into Shu Jing, she was on a search for the stones.

“Crown Prince Gou Zi had taken over Grand Border Fortress for five years now, and he had always relied on the strength of star cultivators. In order to entice them to become his guests, he always sent out people to search for precious stones and material.”

Finished listening to her explanation, Shu Jing fell deep into thought.

This was the first time Shu Jing had felt like he had some sort of idea of Song Lu's true nature. If she was raised since young just to do things like this, no wonder she was like how she is.

“Have you never thought about escaping?” Shu Jing asked.

“Ah, I am just a poor girl with no one to rely on, how can I hide from the Crown Prince's fangs and claws?”

At that moment, Shu Jing noticed Lin Yingmei's eyes looking at him, so he went to comfort Song Lu: “I am also a star cultivator, I will not just stand aside and watch.”

“But...” Song Lu wanted to say something, but she gave up.

Shu Jing smiled and headed to one side with Lin Yingmei.

“Master, this Relic Blade Stone is the treasure I have been searching for, the Relic Blade Sand.” Lin Yin Mei's voice was overcome with excitement.

That was certainly so!

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[Amery: This is around the time the series gets legitimately good, so I'll try to push out more chapters before the end of the arc.

I made a bunch of book covers for Hira, the writer of Babel – The Path to Ascension. When asked for a one sentence description, he says “It’s a cultivation novel dealing with childhood trauma, and the idea that the protagonist isn’t necessarily a better person than the antagonist.”

If that sounds like your jam, check it out [HERE](#)]

108 Maidens of Destiny: Chapter 18 – Heavenly Cycle Northern Dipper Array

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Heavenly Cycle Northern Dipper Array

- TL: AmeryEdge
- ED: Dasenka, Kuu-chan, Zephron

“Tomorrow we shall...”

“Master, can you please hear me out?” Lin Yingmei reached out to interrupt him, her words carrying with it a hint of desperation.

Shu Jing nodded, indicating for her to continue.

“Can this servant go and resolve this matter by herself?” Lin Yingmei asked.

“Are you afraid that I will get in your way?” Shu Jing smiled. He lowered his voice: “For better or worse, I have already reached Stardust Middle Stage.”

Lin Yingmei shook her head: “If what Song Lu said was true, this Gou Zi must have quite a few star cultivators working under him. Master, your strength has only just begun to grow, and while this Linchong believes that you will one day be able to surpass this servant, right now I wish to do this myself!”

“No, it is equally dangerous for either of us to go!” Shu Jing shook his head. Even though Lin Yingmei’s words made sense, it wasn’t something his heart could peacefully agree to. “How about this, let us both go. When we are at the fortress, you may go and act on your own, but it depends on the situation.”

Lin Yingmei fell deep into thought. In the end, it seems like it could only be like that. Right now, her Master did not seem to be afraid of the thing called danger.

The next day, Shu Jing and Lin Yingmei said goodbye to Song Lu before departing for the Grand Border Fortress.

Even though Thousand Mount Kingdom was only a small kingdom in the Liangshan Continent, the Grand Border Fortress still had an impressive aura. The walls of the fortress were 15 metres high and 10 kilometres long. A watch tower was stationed every 150 metres, and about half the distance between each watchtower was the effective range of the arrows. It was easily capable of killing any approaching enemies. Even though he had been in Liangshan Continent for some time, this was the first time Shu Jing had came in contact with one of this world's cities.

The Grand Border Fortress was several times larger than Song Clan Village. Its walls were white and adorned with green tiles, its barricade full of engravings, and its material made from jade. Buildings connected together on and on, with no shortage of people in colourful clothing coming and going, creating a bustling atmosphere in the air.

After heading inside the Grand Border Fortress, Shu Jing suggested that they should first investigate the current situation before making any plans. Lin Yingmei did not object, so Shu Jing, who was in no mood to linger in the Fortress, headed directly towards the Crown Prince Palace.

According to Song Lu's information, this Prince Gou Zi has been commanding here for five years. Beneath him was the fifteen thousand strong garrison of soldiers of the Grand Border Fortress, as well as over a dozen star cultivators. Among them, the most noteworthy were the two guest elders.

These two guest elders were not only Nebula Stage cultivators, they were also supported by two Nebula Artifacts. When it comes to Nebula Artifacts, Shu Jing had witnessed their impressiveness firsthand. At the Mountain Lake Legacy, Daoist Xun Tian had only needed a Nebula Dragon Tail Whisk to push them to the brink of

death, injuring even Lin Yingmei's Arctic Star Serpent Spear. If not for the Chaotic Tail Escape Technique, the outcome would have been much worse.

These two elder's Divine Intents were gigantic. They would be able to immediately sense any star energy fluctuations in the entirety of the Grand Border Fortress. Hence Shu Jing and Lin Yingmei could only hide their traces.

After observing from the outside for some time, they could see a group of men on horseback returning back to the Palace.

The man riding on a white horse had a face like jade, his clothing was regal and refined, his aura bright and clear, his face elated.

Next to him was an older man wearing a robe with a wooden sword in his hands and a younger man wearing a large round hoop. Their attitude was in total contrast with the soldiers around them. These cultivators seemed somewhat out of place with their relaxed and arrogant attitude. Without needing to guess, these were most likely the two Elders Song Lu mentioned.

“Congratulation Your Highness, if you really do become a Star Master, please don't forget about this old man.”

“Haha, I would be depending on the both of you even more then.” Crown Prince Gou Zi laughed out loud.

“If I was not late in entering the star cultivator's ranks, I may have had the chance to become a Star Master.” The seemingly younger man spoke regretfully.

“Expert Wen He is a talented genius. Given time, maybe you could even enter the Annihilation Stage. At that point, what meaning would a mere Liangshan Star Knight have for you?” Gou Zi flattered.

Even though it was just the third cultivation rank, the Galaxy Stage was already far out of his reach, but listening to the crown prince's compliments still made the young man extremely happy. “Your Highness, please do not forget about supplying me with what I require either. I have been waiting for my “Five Restoration

Fundamental Pellet" for a long time now."

"I would not dare to forget about that. I have already sent out several scoutmasters to search for it."

"That would be for the best."

The group headed inside the Palace.

"Soon, I will travel from place to place and start several fires. Wait until the Elders leave, then you head in and get to work. Understood?" Shu Jing carefully explained.

Lin Yingmei nodded. She began to speak, but then paused, "But when the time comes, if Master can..."

Why would Shu Jing not know what she had wanted to say? "I know, once your identity is exposed, they will know you are a Star Knight and the Elders will definitely search for your contracted Master. No matter what, killing me is far easier than dealing with you. Don't worry, I'm not someone unreasonable. At that time I will move far away from the Crown Prince Palace."

"Thank you, Master, for understanding!" Lin Yingmei pursed her lips.

Shu Jing revealed a smile. As he was about to leave, he suddenly stopped and turned around: "Lin Yingmei, do you feel regret about our contract? If it was just you by yourself like before, it wouldn't be this troublesome, would it?"

"From now on, Linchong will never dare to regret it!" Lin Yingmei spoke seriously.

"Remember to be careful."

"Master too," Lin Yingmei reminded him.

Looking at Lin Yingmei's figure, Shu Jing couldn't help but feel a strange reluctance. His instinct told him that things wouldn't be as

simple as it seemed right now. If his cultivation was higher, things wouldn't need to be this troublesome. "This anxiousness must not be allowed." Shu Jing mumbled. His body shook, and all traces of him disappeared from the spot.

Lin Yingmei lurked near the Crown Prince Palace's surroundings.

Not long after, a thick layer of smoke began to rise up from a corner of the Grand Border Fortress. Lin Yingmei's entire body tensed up in preparation. She knew that her Master had begun to take action. Soon, the fort was covered in black smoke. A man on horseback quickly reported to Gou Zi at the Palace, and within moments a trail of light immediately flew out. It seemed to be the younger cultivator of the two. As the smoke got thicker and more numerous, even the Palace was surrounded by the sounds of fire alarms and panic.

A number of soldiers belonging to the Prince had since left the Palace, but ever since the younger Nebula cultivator had left, there was yet to be a glimpse of the older cultivator. This Crown Prince Gou Zi really did seem to be careful. Lin Yingmei knew she couldn't afford to wait any longer. She immediately summoned the Arctic Star Serpent Spear and flew towards the Crown Prince's Palace.

"Assassin! Assassin!"

The Palace servants began calling out when they spotted Lin Yingmei.

Over a hundred soldiers dashed out with their blades, as if they had been prepared all along from all corners of the Palace.

Lin Yingmei softly exclaimed before slashing downward with her spear. The Arctic Star Serpent Spear treated the soldiers as if they were mere grass, blowing them away without resistance. However, these soldiers were on a totally different level than those who had attacked Song Lu's place. Even when realising that they were facing a Star Knight, none of them retreated but continued to risk their life fighting.

Towards this bravery, Lin Yingmei returned to them the greatest of

compliments — Death!

The Arctic Star Serpent Spear made a breathtaking arc through the air, radiating light akin to electricity. As the fight went on, all the soldier's weapons and armour proved incapable of handling just one of her attacks. In but moments, the courtyard was dyed red.

“Fall back!!” A loud shout suddenly resounded.

The silhouette of a powerful figure appeared, aiming an attack right at Lin Yingmei's forehead. This powerful attack was capable of emptying lakes and moving the earth.

Lin Yingmei's glanced at him coldly.

The Arctic Star Serpent Spear promptly stopped the attack in its track. It then followed Lin Yingmei's momentum and flew up, causing a formidable spear light to shoot out, cutting an entire nearby pavilion in half. The figure's face furrowed in shock and turned as pale as ashes.

The powerful enemy retreated, blood streaming from their mouth.

Lin Yingmei was just about to lift up her spear to continue attack when a sudden arrogant voice rang out from behind her: “Calling On The Ninth Heaven, Absolute Extinction Governing Lightning, Release!”

Abruptly, a dark storm cloud appeared directly above Lin Yingmei's head. One could only see that with the movement of the sword, the storm cloud became animated, splitting out a small patch of black cloud. A deafening thunder sounded out as a lightning bolt smashed towards the location where Lin Yingmei was standing.

The entire courtyard was blown apart. Several soldiers who did not take cover in time lost their lives.

After the powerful shock dissipated, the courtyard had turned into a mess.

“How is it?” Gou Zi rushed out from the room and asked.

The old Nebula Stage Cultivator's expression was fierce. In his hand was the ancient sword and a talisman, and he kept up his guard without a tiny bit of negligence. On the other hand, the younger Elder was sweating bullets as he struggled to control his Nebula Artifact, the "Thunder Cry Sword".

The dust settled while a chilling cold breath befell them.

Lin Yingmei appeared in front of everyone's eyes. The lightning strike had clearly wounded her slightly.

"You are the Majestic Star, Panther Head Linchong!!" Gou Zi was not scared. Instead, he seemed excessively excited.

"It is I!"

Lin Yingmei gripped her spear and stepped forward. Suddenly, a large circle of light appeared on the ground surrounding her. The circle array comprised of stars caused Lin Yingmei to feel that all her energy was being consumed and her body pressed down by a mountain, impossible to move.

Lin Yingmei's usually indifferent expression began to change.

"What is this array?"

"It is the Heavenly Cycle Northern Dipper Array, and it has been waiting just for you!!!"

Gou Zi deliriously shouted.

Oh no, it was a trap!

Master is in danger!

Lin Yingmei's face turned pale.

Not good, Lin Yingmei is in danger!

A strange dark cloud released a bright lighting strike that caused

the entire Grand Border Fortress to shake in fear. Shu Jing who was fanning the flames looked at the distanced lightning, a powerful feeling of unease welling up in his heart.

Without any hesitation, Shu Jing pulled out Silver Blade and headed towards the Crown Prince Palace.

Crown Prince Palace

Those who were involved all stood around the Heavenly Cycle Northern Dipper Array. They stared in fear at the Star Knight who was currently struggling with all her might inside.

“It really is the Majestic Star!!” The elder revealed a shocked expression.

“Seems like he didn’t deceive me!!” Gou Zi tried his best to control his emotions. Linchong. Ah, you are Panther Head Linchong. Just thinking about being able to sign a contract with the legendary Majestic Star made him uncontrollably happy. This was definitely proof that he did not waste all the resources he used in the past year to make this Heavenly Cycle Northern Dipper Array. While this array specialised in restraining the Majestic Star may look impressive, it had its limitations. The contract must be relatively newly signed, also, the Star Master must not go near the Majestic Star in order for it to work effectively.

When Star Knights and their Masters were separated, their connected power also weakened. This array was designed to take advantage of this exact phenomenon. If it was not able to absorb the Majestic Star’s source of power, this array would also be useless.

“I never thought that it would actually be the famous impossible-to-contract Majestic Star.” The younger cultivator retrieved the Thunder Cry Sword while looking at Lin Yingmei with eyes full of doubt.

“Elders, let us not celebrate too hastily. We must not let her Master come near the Palace, or the Majestic Star can use that chance to

break the array, which will make things even more difficult.”
Crown Prince Gou Zi saluted. “I beg the two elders to stop him.”

“This is no problem. The Majestic Star has been restrained by this array, which means that her contracted master’s cultivation must not be higher than the Stardust Stage. Crushing him right now would be nothing, we also need to help the Crown Prince get rid of potential problems.”

“You dare...” Lin Yingmei gnashed her teeth while trying to stand up. The array full of stars immediately circulated, causing all her efforts to go to naught.

The two elders flew out from the Palace and began their search for Lin Yingmei’s Contracted Master.

Gou Zi turned and looked towards Lin Yingmei with eyes filled with maniacal greed.

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108 Maidens of Destiny: Chapter 19 – Knowledge Star Wu Yong’s Scheme

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Knowledge Star Wu Yong’s Scheme

- TL: AmeryEdge
- ED: LtBeefy

“Not a bad feeling, is it?” A sneering voice woke Gou Zi from his stupor. The cloaked person had appeared from since who knows when.

Gou Zi’s expression flashed with some uncertainty, but was promptly replaced with a flattering smile. “This was all thanks to your help. If not for you, how could we have accomplished this so easily? However, to think that Lin Chong had already signed a Star Duel Covenant contract...”

“Do not worry, I will help you annul the contract.” The other party said casually.

“How would we do that?” Gou Zi asks in shock.

“When Lin Chong is at her weakest and her master does not appear to interfere, the Star Duel Covenant will automatically annul itself.”

Gou Zi was startled. He had heard that once two people have signed the contract, it would bind them more strongly than any shackles could, equally dividing all the joys and sorrows that comes with their bond. Once contracted, Star Knights must share with their Master a portion of their Star Energy, and at the same time Star Masters must also complete certain requirements. Things like abandoning their Star Knights who was in danger for whatever

reason would cause the Covenant to annul itself.

Of course, whether the Covenant's judgement was based on the subjective betrayal of the Master or other objective measurement was still unknown. For the past nine generations of Star Duels, instances of annulled contracts were extremely rare, with any remaining records talking very vaguely about the subject.

“Basically, you must not let her Star Master get close to her or this will all fail.”

“Hmm, Lin Chong's Star Master does not seem to have a very high cultivation. The two elders shall stand guard nearby. If he dares to get close, he will die instantly. Ha ha, I heard that killing the Star Master could also annul the contract, I don't know if that's true or not.” Crown Prince Gou Zi laughed coldly.

“You are talking nonsense.” The other person spoke without any emotion: “Since I can even give you Lin Chong to contract, I can also easily destroy you. Clearly you must understand this.”

Gou Zi nodded repeatedly. From his pocket, he took out a single token. Even though he was somewhat regretful, he could see that the mysterious person in front of him was not exactly a saint. Someone who could easily deliver Lin Chong into his hands was not someone he would dare to provoke, even if he had eaten leopard galls for dinner.

The other person's arms swung up, causing the Token to disappear from sight.

“Lin Chong sis, I am truly sorry. I will take care of Young Master in your place.” A stream of sound echoed directly inside Lin Yingmei's mind.

Lin Yingmei was currently constantly restrained by the Heavenly Cycle Northern Dipper Array absorbing all her Star Energy, her head was deep in confusion. However, she still recognised the clue in that voice.

“It's you!!!”

“Star Knights all only wish to serve a good master, and I have finally found my perfect one. I beg Lin sister to forgive me. It’s a shame that Star Masters cannot make two contracts at the same time, if not, I would also be willing to serve Master alongside Lin Chong sis... At that time, I promise I will return you your freedom, though I will have to offend you for now.” The calm voice in her head sighed resignedly.

Lin Yingmei’s originally coldly protesting expressions suddenly became as still as stagnant water, turning silent. “Protect Master well!!”

“Un!”

“What are you talking about?” Gou Zi was confused.

The cloaked figure hmph coldly and then turned around and teleported far away.

In the courtyard, the only thing left was sounds of a long sigh.

She, the Panther Head Lin Chong, have also felt regretful about the timing of the situation.

“Hmph, Lin Chong, you should obediently become my Star Knight, I will not treat you unfairly!”

Bang!!

Loud tremors from all directions reverberated violently.

Lin Yingmei stood up, her Arctic Star Serpent Spear’s piercing through the ground, almost breaking through the centre of the array circle. Gou Zi was so scared he thought his soul was leaving his body.

“This servant is the Majestic Star Panther Head Lin Chong, and in this life I will have only one master!!”

Several streams of lights shot by, stopping Shu Jing in his tracks.

After Shu Jing avoided the attack, around five metres away, the elder named Wen He slowly stepped out to stand before him. He appraised Shu Jing. Seeing the shining Star Symbol on his forehead, Wen He clicks his tongue: “You are Lin Chong’s Master? You don’t seem to be anything special. Lin Chong was truly blind to sign a contract with you. This truly makes one angry.”

Finished speaking, he casually shot out an attack.

In his palm, an illusionary iron ball formed. The ball then disappears and then suddenly returns, this time right in front of Shu Jing.

A loud bang resounds; the ground was split open with a large gaping hole remaining.

“What a useless trash, so easy to kill.” Wen He laughed heartily.

The sound of wind screeching echoed by his ears.

Wen He’s pupil contracted. In a flash he instantly spun around, his Thunder Cry Sword used as a shield in front of his body. One could then only hear several sounds of gunshots rang out. The overwhelming force behind the attacks nearly pushed Wen He back, and even when he managed to defend against it, his hands still could not help but shake violently.

“How could this be!” Wen He looked at the empty hole on the ground, disbelieving that he was able to escape his “Annihilation Bead”.

Shu Jing spat. This Nebula Stage cultivator was on a totally different level than the cultivators he had met before. What’s more crucial is that his Star Energy bullets were also not very effective.

But Shu Jing did not want to waste too much time struggling here, but instead his mind was focused on Lin Yingmei, for an ominous premonition was growing in his heart. Since the bullets did not work, Shu Jing used the Chaotic Tail Escape Technique.

“What kind of movement technique is this?” Caught by surprise, Wen He immediately felt ashamed and angry. He angrily laughed:

“Just a small Stardust Middle Stage cultivator, yet you to want to play around with me?”

Wen He’s body suddenly moved. As if he was an arrow leaving the bow, in a blink of an eye he almost caught up to Shu Jing.

Even though Shu Jing’s Chaotic Tail Escape Technique was very formidable, there were downsides. Repeated uses will exacerbate the damage of his wounds. After going through it several times, Shu Jing was feeling pains that permeated through his bones.

“Thunder Cry Sword, go!”

The Nebula Stage cultivator shouted coldly.

A streak of light suddenly shot forward, its speed extremely fast. With just the first stage of the Chaotic Tail Escape Technique, there was no way for Shu Jing to avoid it. The sword stopped him in his path. A lightning symbol appeared, causing dark storm clouds to appear, summoning lightning and thunder.

The Thunder Cry Sword’s sharp pointed blade made it hard for Shu Jing to escape.

Wen He pointed his finger, Star Energy circulating, a streak of lightning immediately shot through Shu Jing’s shoulder. His entire body burning with pain, Shu Jing’s feet slowed down at the same time.

Wen He used this chance to give orders to the “Thunder Cry Sword”

At that time, a shadow suddenly appears near the vicinity of the Thunder Cry Sword. Before Shu Jing could regain his sense, he was already caught tightly by someone. He could only follow as the other person threw out a talisman, causing a loud bang, shattering the entire earth beneath them. In the blink of an eye, they were gone.

Wen He stood still in shock. Using his Divine Intent to search, but was unable to find anyone. He retrieved the sword and turned over the talisman on the ground.

“Divine Ground Teleportation Talisman! Hmph, this damned rat!”

Wen He shouted a curse and shredded the talisman into pieces.

Shu Jing’s body felt like it was moving through the ground, his mind deep in chaos. By the time he had regained his senses, he has already left the Grand Border Fortress far behind and had appeared on an empty patch of land in the middle of the grassland.

Shu Jing tightly gripped at the cloaked person’s body, pulling down their hood. He tried his best to get a glimpse of the person’s face, but his shoulders were still in pain from the continuous usage of Chaotic Tail Escape Technique. The pain made him feel as if his soul was being forced out of his own body, causing his mind to drift into unconsciousness. Before passing out, he vaguely saw the figure of a beautiful young girl wearing a short green skirt with braided ponytails, her face steeped in worries.

Some unknown time later, Shu Jing slowly opened his eyes.

He was enveloped in a comfortable and warm sensation. The figure of a ravishing body with soft smooth skin was currently clinging to him tightly. Shu Jing’s heart moved as he looked at the girl’s plain naked body gently wrapping around him, her fulfilling embrace causing his entire body to feel like it was on fire.

Of course, the girl was none other than Song Lu!

A cold glint of light suddenly appeared in Shu Jing’s eye. He casually pushed her off.

“Young Master, you have woken up?” Song Lu’s eyes opened, half-awake, paying no mind to their intimate positions.

Shu Jing looks towards the sky. It was already twilight, which means hours must have passed. Thinking about Lin Yingmei, Shu Jing immediately put on his clothes and planned to leave.

“Young Master, please don’t go!”

Song Lu anxiously clung onto Shu Jing.

Shu Jing pushed her arms off him. He stared at her coldly.

“Are you done?”

Song Lu appeared shocked. “Young Master, what do you mean?”

“Song Lu, do you really think that only you are capable of coming up with clever schemes?” Shu Jing’s eyes have never been so brutal. His fingers curled around Silver Blade’s trigger: “Just as Yingmei encountered a difficult situation, you show up to rescue me. Are you just going to say this was all a coincidence? Sorry, I don’t buy it.” Ever since meeting her for the first time, Shu Jing has always been suspicious of her true identity.

Only because she has shown genuine sincerity towards them did Shu Jing chose to ignore this. He has heard Lin Yingmei talk about the Star Maidens who did not possess amazing strength, and thus needing to always keep a low profile. He had thought perhaps Song Lu was one of such cases.

When the situation with Crown Prince Gou Zi’s man happened, Shu Jing was once again suspicious, but before he could delve into it, Lin Yingmei was already distracted by the Relic Blade Sand.

Thinking back, the Relic Blade Stone was clearly all part of her plan, a bait for Lin Yingmei. Needless to say, with Lin Yingmei’s real strength, two Nebula Stage cultivators were not enough to cause Lin Yingmei and him to become completely separated. The only explanation would be that the Crown Prince Palace had set up a trap specifically for Lin Yingmei, causing the Majestic Star to be caught off guard.

As his eyes moved towards the surrounding, he recognised that this was the Mountain Lake Labyrinth.

“Do you still plan to deny it?”

After being silent for awhile, Song Lu slowly recovered her calm. She revealed a weak smile, her eyes staring at him: “Young Master is so formidable. I had thought that this was a flawless plan that did

not leave behind any traces. You are indeed worthy of being the Master I want to spend the rest of my life serving!"

"Exploiting the trust you have built with others and then betraying them, this doesn't really require any especially cunning plans." Shu Jing looked at Song Lu coldly, "If something were to happen to Lin Yingmei, I will personally kill you!"

Just as Shujin turned around to leave, Song Lu suddenly spoke: "Young Master, if you wish to save Lin Chong sis, I have a very good method!"

"What did you say?"

"All you need to do is willing annul the contract with Lin Chong, and then sign a new Star Duel Covenant contract with me. That small Heavenly Cycle Northern Dipper Array will no longer be able to hold the Majestic Star!" Song Lu's tightly pulled on her coat, her two long slender legs pressing together.

Shu Jing gave her an indifferent glance before ignoring her.

Song Lu called out: "Young Master, if you really want me to make it clear to you, Grand Border Fortress has over ten thousand soldiers and two Nebula Stage cultivators. Young Master, if you leave, you will die. Isn't it a much smarter idea for you to just sign a contract with me? This maiden can guarantee that if Young Master knows my real identity, you would understand that I am much more promising than Lin Chong!"

"Is this all part of your plan?" Shu Jing turned, his voice fascinated: "You orchestrate a hopeless situation that put your target at a dead end, then you offer them hope to achieve your goals... This is quite heartless, you really are making me view you in a different light than before.

"Seems like nothing gets past the Young Master. This is making me all the more excited to contract with you."

Song Lu revealed a smile, her body slowly radiated a hazy green light aura. In the dark, it looked almost dream-like. This was Song

Lu's Star Knight's State.

A green feather fan appears in Song Lu's hands along with a powerful aura of authority overflowing.

Someone who had sophisticated schemes, was cunning and intelligent, with plans that had everyone eating from her hands. Without even needing Song Lu to introduce herself, Shu Jing could already guessed her true identity.

In Liangshan, there could be only be one person like her.

The Liangshan Continent's number three Star Knight.

“Knowledge Star”,

Wu Yong The Mastermind!

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[Amery: Polls ended. Shu Jing stays.]

Which do you prefer?

- Shu Jing [Current] (75%, 50 Votes)
- Su Xing [Pinyin] (25%, 17 Votes)

Total Voters: **67**

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108 Maidens of Destiny: Chapter 20 – I Am My Own Master

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I Am My Own Master

- TL: AmeryEdge
- ED: Istaripanda

“I am the Knowledge Star “Mastermind” Wu Yong. my real name is Xinxie.”

The girl stood with her long gliding cloak, her smile overflowing with pride: “After watching you solve the riddle, this maiden has decided to devote herself to following Young Master. As long as you are willing to join hands with Xinxie, all of Liangshan Continent’s forbidden grounds and their countless strange and complex secrets will be broken through by us working together. At that time, becoming the winner of the Liangshan Star Duel would be a simple matter.”

Shu Jing did not say a single word, but instead he only wore a strange smile that was not quite a smile.

“Young Master, do you know why you got nothing even though you solved the riddle?”

Wu Xinxie revealed a mysterious smile. Her hand swung up and a golden light flew out from the Star Knight’s Astral Bag. A tome appeared in her hands and the girl appeared to be teeming with self-pride.

Clearly, the person who had solved the legacy before him was her, the Mastermind.

“This “Heart Like Mirrors Absolute Sincerity Soul Technique” was obtained by this Xinxie when she solved the riddle. If Young Master signs the contract with Xinxie, Xinxie will readily hand it over to you.” Finished speaking, Wu Xinxie’s accentuated her beautiful face by winking seductively at Shu Jing. She sultrily makes her way towards him: “Yingmei is as cold as a block of ice, doesn’t Young Master want a Star Knight that can do much more for you?”

Wu Yong the Mastermind was extremely confident. Even though Shu Jing had thoroughly saw through her schemes, this was not a problem for the Knowledge Star. The only thing that mattered right now was that Shu Jing was amidst a crisis.

Lin Yingmei was captured at the Grand Border Fortress’ Crown Prince Palace. It was impossible for Shu Jing to rescue her by himself. If he went there now, it would be akin to a moth flying towards flame.

Smart people always have a similar weakness — That is, when truly in a bind, they can fully understand their situation and know the consequences of their own actions. If an action would lead them to their death, they would definitely not do it.

What’s more, the Knowledge Star who was Liangshan Continent’s number three Star Knight was 6 ranks higher in comparison to the Majestic Star. Shu Jing’s cultivation was just at its fundamental stage, so being contracted with the fierce Majestic Star right now Wasn’t necessarily a wise choice. In comparison, Wu Yong as the Knowledge Star could offer him much more support, love, and attention. From her point of view, Shu Jing only had one choice.

Furthermore, the Knowledge Star Wu Yong had laid another trap — Only by joining with her would he be able to save Lin Yingmei. This would help Shu Jing get rid of any guilt.

This was Wu Xinxie’s flawless plan!

Master, let this Wu Yong follow you.

Wu Xinxie begged from the bottom of her heart.

Shu Jing looked at Wu Xinxie. Suddenly, his darkened face was replaced by laughter, as if he had just realised something extremely funny. Xinxie couldn't make head or tail of it.

“Really, really...” Shu Jing displayed a thumbs up and complimented: “You really are good. I learnt to really like some points about you. I don’t think I will ever forget about the Knowledge Star’s schemes for the rest of my life. It could make people accept betrayal with all their hearts... Ah, very good...”

“This is only in order to save Yingmei...” Wu Xinxie’s voice was emotional.

Shu Jing’s joyous laughter was as clear as the spring, but it carried with it a chilling sense of rejection.

Wu Xinxie may have thought of everything, but she still thought too lightly of Shu Jing’s heart.

As a soldier, there was an ironclad rule —

Never abandon your comrade!

Absolutely never!

“If you think you can control me, I’m afraid you will be disappointed!”

Shu Jing looked at her arrogantly and left without any hesitation. No matter what Wu Xinxie pulled out from her Astral Bag to tempt him, they will be nothing more than trash to him.

The girl was left stunned. She shouted out loudly: “Young Master, if you leave now it would be no different from suicide. They will call you a fool!”

“If I fear death, then I am no warrior!”

Shu Jing left behind those cold words before circulating the Chaotic Tail Escape Technique, disappearing from her sight. There were no traces of regret or hesitation.

Why?

Does the Knowledge Star lose to the Majestic Star in some way?

This was the first time something completely out of her expectation had happened. Xinxie fell down to the ground, her eyes blurred in bewilderment.

She couldn't understand. She really couldn't understand.

Grand Border Fortress, the Crown Prince Palace

The night gradually grew darker.

Inside the bright Palace Halls, the Heavenly Cycle Northern Dipper Array was continuing to absorb Lin Ying Mei's Star Energy while the people surrounding watched in stunned silence.

“This is the Majestic Star?” Gou Zi swallowed his saliva, his greed towards Lin Yingmei slowly transforming into a sort of fear. He didn't even have the courage to make contact with her cold and determined eyes.

From there reverberated a shock that pierces deep into his bones.

“She is at the mercy of Your Highness Crown Prince's trap.” The older cultivator spoke.

“Can we really become Lin Chong's master?” Gou Zi sounded unconvincing.

“Once you have signed the contract, it would no longer be up to her.”

Hearing the old cultivator, Gou Zi nodded in comfort.

Suddenly, a glint of strange light appeared in the elder cultivator's eyes. He grinned.

“Lin Chong's Star Master is trying to make his way here. He really

is wishing to die!"

"Immediately pass on my orders. Surround the Grand Border Fortress and send out the cavalry to kill him. This time, we must not let him escape." Gou Zi loudly commanded.

"Your Highness, there is no need to worry." The older cultivator narrowed his eyes in disdain: "Wen He is already there, he won't let him escape."

"Then that's even better."

Shu Jing thought that he would at least be able to rush to the Crown Prince Palace before being discovered, but the Nebula Stage cultivator's powerful Divine Intent was impossible to circumvent. No matter how well he disguised himself, this Divine Intent would work almost like radar and sniff him out. Eluding it was extremely difficult. What's more, the enemy was someone far above him in cultivation.

"Are you seeking death?" Wen He the Nebula Stage cultivator was humiliated by Shu Jing's escape, his tender face creasing up. "I'll make you wish you were dead."

He opened his mouth widely and spat out an iron ball.

A bright flash of light shot by.

This time, Shu Jing did not run. He lifted up Silver Blade and pulled the trigger. Before, when he was still a pilot, his reaction speed and vision were finely honed. After being refined by Star Energy, they had obviously only gotten better. He continuously shot out multiple bullets.

The air was filled with explosive noises.

The silver light quickly grew bigger to Wen He's eyes. He leapt to avoid the incoming bullets while chanting with his fingers pointed at the Annihilation Bead. The bead released a massive explosion that completely transformed the area where Shu Jing previously stood.

A figure flew up into the air like a hurricane.

Wen He suddenly found Shu Jing appeared nearby him.

“This damn star cultivator!”

Wen He gnashed his teeth and quickly jumped to escape, his fingers quickly moving.

He was attempting to redirect the Annihilation Bead.

Shu Jing did not bother to even look at him and continued to shoot.

The gun barrel shot out fiery sparks of light that flew toward the Annihilation Bead like meteors. After 10 consecutive bullets, it succeeded in pushing back the Artifact.

Wen He was surprised. He felt that all his knowledge about Artifacts were turned upside down by the person in front of him. What kind Artifact was that? How had it pushed the Annihilation Bead back?

“It seems like you are not as useless as I thought.”

Wen He coldly sneered. He then proceeded to lift up the Thunder Cry Sword.

The sword resounds with sounds of thunder, causing a bolt of lightning to fly towards Shu Jing at breakneck speed. Shu Jing also did not dare to defend against it, but instead jumped to avoid it. Wen He slashed once more with the Thunder Cry sword to summon another flash of lightning.

The lightning was like an aggressive fire snake that destroyed the area and turned it into pieces.

Shu Jing was barely able to escape the attacks.

Wen He’s expression grew more and more serious. Shu Jing’s agility and reaction speed far surpassed what he had anticipated. Seems like Star Masters could not be judged by normal standards. At that moment, he no longer hesitated. His sneering laughter rose, then suddenly he stopped and yelled out: “True thunder punishes demons, burning them to nothing! Demon Punishing Divine Thunder!”

Wen He was provoked by Shu Jing and no longer held back and used his most powerful attack.

The Thunder Cry Sword transformed into a lightning serpent that flew towards Shu Jing with its mouth wide opened. One could only see a bright flash of light, turning the dark night sky pale.

This lightning bolt was truly too fast. There was nothing Shu Jing could do in response.

The serpent swallowed him whole.

The lightning bolt was overwhelming. With Shu Jing at its center, all objects within several dozens of metres were all obliterated.

“Hahaha, let’s see how you can survive this!”

Wen He laughed loudly.

Bang.

Suddenly, a streak of silver light cut through the night, drawing a long straight line in the sky.

The shocked Wen He quickly avoided the attack. The smile on his face completely disappearing.

From inside the epicenter of the Demon Punishing Divine Lightning, Shu Jing stepped out without a scratch on his body. One could only see his entire body enveloped in a layer of white light, as if it was an armor. The Demon Punishing Divine Lightning was completely repelled.

Impossible, how could a Stardust Middle Stage cultivator defend against his most powerful lightning technique?

“That is ..!”

Wen He’s keen eyes noticed that Shu Jing was holding a small piece of jade. From within this piece of jade flowed out powerful Star Energy that protected him.

“An Astral Artifact!!”

Wen He’s shouted in panic. He quickly circulated his Artifact Technique.

The Nebula Stage Artifact Thunder Cry Sword released a piercing thunderous roar that overwhelmed the mind.

But alas, all of its energy was absorbed by the Profound Astral Gem.

Wen He spun around, planning to escape, but Shu Jing who had used the Chaotic Tail Escape Technique was one step ahead, appearing directly in front of him in the next instant. His Silver Blade’s barrel was pointed directly at Wen He, releasing bright silver light shots.

Wen He bent his two fingers. His Nebula Techniques was sufficient for deflecting the bullets, but they were simply Shu Jing’s distraction meant to attract his attention. The suddenly Silver Blade appeared at Wen He’s unguarded throat.

Wen He’s face was overcome with fear. He called out in desperation: “Who are you really?”

“The Majestic Star’s Master!”

Shu Jing pulled the trigger.

The energy from the bullet immediately ravaged Wen He’s internals. The cultivator’s face became distorted in pain. Shu Jing then casually used his arm to wring Wen He’s neck.

Even in his last moments, Wen He was not able to believe that a Nebula Early Stage cultivator would die in the hand of a Stardust Middle Stage cultivator.

Shu Jing breathed out roughly. Just killing Wen He had taken all of his energy reserves. Shu Jing pulled out a bottle of Qi Restoration Liquid he had previously acquired from Xun Tian Daoist and gulped it all down. His energy began to slowly replenish. Following that, Shu Jing pulled out the Clear Wind Talismans. Thanks to this talisman, his body was able to move at an amazing speed, and

enabled him to take care of the enemy.

But this wasn't the time to relax. Shu Jing knew there was someone even more powerful here. It was a cultivator at Nebula Middle Stage, and not one he can deal with as easily as the Nebula Early Stage cultivator.

Shu Jing gnashed his teeth and retrieved all that he could from Wen He's body, then quickly set off.

Crown Prince Palace

The older cultivator's face suddenly turned extremely fierce. He looked towards the distanced sky with fear.

"Elder Xiu, what happened? Did Elder Wen He finished off that Star Master?" Gou Zi impatiently asked.

"No, he had killed Wen He instead." The older cultivator spat out heavily.

"What!?"

Gou Zi's face turned ashen grey.

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108 Maidens of Destiny: Chapter 21 – Heavenly Lightning, Earthly Fire

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Heavenly Lightning, Earthly Fire

- TL: AmeryEdge
- ED: Istaripanda

“Isn’t he just a low levelled cultivator? How could he kill Elder Wen He?” Gou Zi asked in a panicked tone.

“It seems like we can’t underestimate someone who’s capable of defeating the Majestic Star.”

Elder Xiu spoke gravely. He circulated his Divine Intent and honed in on Shu Jing’s every movement. He discovered that the other party was constantly moving about the fort, from the food storage, barracks to camps starting fires. It was impossible to figure out what he was planning to do. The Grand Border Fortress was once again engulfed in fire, with smoke covering the sky. Elder Xiu was no longer able to sit still. He could not easily forgive a Stardust Middle Stage cultivator who dared to not give him an ounce of respect, constantly running around starting fires.

On the other side, Gou Zi was also impatient. If this struggle continued, the entire Grand Border Fortress would be burnt to cinders.

“Elder Xiu!”

“I will go get him now. However, regarding Elder Wen He’s reward...”

Matters had come to this point, and yet this damned old man still wouldn't spare even a thought for his companion! Crown Prince Gou Zi cursed from the bottom of his heart. However, on the surface he smiled accommodatingly: "As long as you take care of this Star Master, Elder Wen He's reward will be given to Elder Xiu in its entirety."

"Un." Elder Xiu nodded, a satisfied smile appearing on his face. It seems like he could not hold back in order to deal with Shu Jing. He picked up the wooden sword and a talisman before flying off.

The half kneeling Lin Yingmei who had heard their entire conversation could not help but sigh a long sigh.

Master, why?

Grand Border Fortress Pavilion.

Atop this pavilion stood a young girl dressed in a red fluttering dress. She was standing against the breeze, her red eyes observing the entirety of the Grand Border Fortress. She looks at the fire alarms raised across the entire fort at various burning and smoking locations and couldn't help but smirk. She really did enjoy this kind blazing fire imagery.

This beautiful girl was standing next to a man whose face was like jade. He was handsome and elegant youth, only right now there was a glint of shock in his eyes.

Indeed, they were Deviance Star "Red-haired Devil" Liu Tang and her Star Master, Xun Huo.

After being pointed in the wrong direction by Lil' Er, they failed to find Shu Jing and Lin Yingmei. They did not think that the next time they would run into the Majestic Star and her Master would be in this situation.

"Lin Chong's Star Master really is an idiot. He dared to infiltrate the fort by his lonesome self. Did he think he could put up a fight against the two Nebula cultivators without the help of Lin Chong?"

Xun Huo laughed lightly. He was observing all of the events occurring at the Grand Border Fortress. He was quite surprised by the Majestic Star's capture, but Shu Jing's reckless move was what caused him to laughed out loud.

"Master, what do you think he should have done then?" The Red-haired Devil Liu Qing-er asked casually, her voice carrying it with a slightly strange tone.

Xun Huo replied immediately without thinking: "Of course he should have ran as far away as possible. Losing a Star Knight, one can just find another one. But each person only have a single life. If one dies, they have nothing."

"Master's words are so enlightening, Qing-er understands." Liu Qing-er laughed mysteriously.

Xun Huo suddenly felt a chill running through his entire body, his heart lunging forward. Danger! Xun Huo suddenly remembered Liu Qing-er was also a Star Knight. He quickly explained: "If any danger comes to Qing-er, I would, of course, use all my strength to rescue you. However, that is the Majestic Star, her Star Master basically has no power to control her, hence it would be just a waste of time for him. That's what I meant."

It was a good try.

Lin Qing-er licked her lips, her red fiery eyes seems like they were burning brightly. "No need, Master's decision is indeed the correct one. If Master is killed, Star Knights will also be seriously injured, even killed. The further you stay away from your Star Knight, the better. You would be able to guarantee your own safety, while the Star Knights can use this chance to find an even more powerful Master, so why wouldn't they take it? If one day Qing-er meets such a situation, I pray Master will go as far away as possible!"

Xun Huo wasn't sure if Liu Qing-er was being genuine or not, but her words made sense. For now, Xun Huo could only smile awkwardly.

Lin Qing-er summoned her Blaze Refining Nine Hell Sabre, the

sabre' fireballs floating gently.

"Right now is our best chance to kill Lin Chong." Xun Huo said, heatedly.

Liu Qing-er glanced at him, her eyes cold. There was even a trace of scorn.

Useless trash!

She cursed quietly.

An overwhelming aura suddenly appeared and pushed down on him like a mountain. Shu Jing could only feel his legs turning numb and impossible to move.

An elder cultivator coldly appeared in front of him. The Elder complimented. "I never thought you would be capable of killing Wen He, but that's the furthest you will go."

Elder Xiu pulled out the wooden sword and attached a talisman on its body. He casually swung it upward.

He muttered a single word: "Go!"

The talisman turned into countless fireball that covered the entire night sky, as if there were dozens of suns falling from the sky.

Shu Jing leapt and avoided an attacking fireball, but before he could even retaliate using the Silver Blade, the Elder have already made his next move. His Nebula Middle Stage Divine Intent was fierce. The moment Shu Jing attempted to escape, he spat a metal sword.

The flash of sword light directly shot through Shu Jing's body.

Afterimage?

Elder Xiu was stunned.

With his Clear Wind Talisman activated, Shu Jing appeared in front of Elder Xiu in the blink of an eye, continuously shooting at him. Not paying any mind to his remaining bullets, Shu Jing shot over ten silver beams of light shot toward Elder Xiu.

“Hmph.”

Elder Xiu laughed coldly, his wooden sword swept up, shooting out Star Energy to turn the strange “artifacts” into tiny pieces. Suddenly, he discovered that amongst the chaos of the exploding bullets, a single silver ball appeared. Elder Xiu’s expression quickly changed.

Annihilation Bead??!

Bang!

The Annihilation Bead unleashed a powerful wave that swallowed Elder Xiu. Even though Shu Jing still could not control Nebula Grade Artifacts, this Annihilation Bead did not need to be fueled with any Star Energy, but was more akin to a grenade. The damage it could cause cannot be underestimated.

“Bastard!”

Elder Xiu was blasted by the attack before he could prepare and took the full blunt of the attack. But before he could finish cursing, a figure suddenly appeared beside him like a silent assassin.

Putting aside how high the cultivation of a cultivator was or how powerful their Artifact, there was always a weakness. When it comes to Star Energy, cultivation, Artifact, Shu Jing was not his match, but if he was able to get close to him, Shu Jing was sure that he had the means to surely kill anyone.

The Silver Blade shot toward Elder Xiu.

Only, this time the cultivator was nothing like Wen He. Elder Xiu shouted angrily, his power like a wave crashing down. Just as Silver Blade was only an inch from Elder Xiu’s throat, Shu Jing was hit by the wave of overwhelming power. He could only be thrown backward at the wall, leaving a large dent.

“Heaven hear my orders, Heavenly Lightning Earthly Fire!”

Bang!

Elder Xiu angrily chanted, his wooden sword turning into a bright red lightning bolt. He had used the “Heavenly Lightning Arts”. One could only see the wooden sword transforming into a fiery lightning bolt that strikes down upon Shu Jing’s location.

“Just a tiny Stardust cultivator like you can make me use the “Heavenly Lightning Earthly Fire Sword”, it seems like your death at least had some meaning, Haha.”

Sneering, Elder Xiu’s expression suddenly turned serious.

Shu Jing’s breath did not disappear.

After the fiery lightning dissipated, Shu Jing was still standing solidly like a statue, his face carrying with it a hint of delight.

“By now, Lin Yingmei must have been saved.”

“What nonsense are you saying?”

Xiu Elder asked in surprise.

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108 Maidens of Destiny: Chapter 22 – The One In A Thousand Years Love

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The One In A Thousand Years Love

- TL: AmeryEdge
- ED: Istaripanda

“Not only did you not sincerely run away and hide, you even came back here to your death. Now you even wish to save someone? How laughable!”

Elder Xiu laughed, his eyes narrowing. Comparing to the Majestic Star, Elder Xiu was much more interested in how this Star Master survived his “Heavenly Lightning Arts”.

He focused his sight on the piece of jade in Shu Jing’s left hand. It was continuously releasing a transparent halo of protective Star Energy around him.

“An Astral Artifact! No wonder Lin Chong would sign a contract with you. I would have never thought you were in possession of a such a treasure!” Elder Xiu revealed a greedy expression.

Astral Artifacts were extremely rare in Liangshan Continent. Even if it was just a common Astral Artifact, only freakishly powerful Stellar Stage cultivators would dare to walk around showing them off, lest they bring fatal disasters upon oneself.

After so many years of cultivating, Elder Xiu had only ever run into two Astral Artifacts. The first was a “Moon and Stars Encircling Bracelet”, which nearly obliterated him when used by a Galaxy Stage cultivator, while the second was Shu Jing.

“Now it’s your turn!” Elder Xiu yelled out excitedly, power streaming into the wooden sword. The sword turned into the shape of a bolt of red lightning, akin to a Flood Dragon leaving shore with its fangs and claws out, roaring furiously. This was the Heavenly Lightning Earthly Fire Sword’s true form.

In but a moment, the fort’s fire blended with the fire lightning released by the sword and covered the entire night sky, dyeing the heavens and earth bright red.

Crown Prince Palace

Gou Zi’s personal guard was already scared to death by the star cultivator’s battle. His face and Gou Zi’s paled in fear. A feeling of unease rose up in Gou Zi’s heart. This was the first time he was so intimidated by someone with lower cultivation than himself.

Elder Xiu’s cultivation was at the Nebula Middle Stage. In theory, he should have been able to easily slay a Stardust cultivator like Shu Jing, even if he was the Majestic Star’s Master. What’s more, Elder Xiu was in possession of the Heavenly Lighting Earthly Fire Sword, a terrifying weapon. Even if he was fighting Lin Chong, she would be lucky to escape it.

Gou Zi comforted himself as he turned his eyes toward the girl inside the array.

At that moment, a figure in a green short dress and ponytail appeared. She headed directly for the Palace.

The girl was enveloped in an ethereal halo of green light. Truly beautiful!

“Stop!”

The guards shouted while lifting their spears.

The girl paid them no mind and instead focused on Lin Yingmei, who was inside the array. Her eyes carried with them a hint of envy and at the same time resignation.

The guards stared at her confused, then thrust their spears at her.

Nimble chains made of bronze appeared and pushed back the guard's spear completely.

"Even though I do not possess any martial arts or magic arts, don't think you can bully me easily."

The girl snickered. The chains wrapped around her arms seemed to have their own intelligence, their tips easily cutting through the metal armour like mud.

Indeed, she was the Knowledge Star Wu Xinxie.

Gou Zi's expression shifted.

Star Knight?

Before, it was impossible for him to even catch a glimpse of a Star Knight, but now there were even two here. What's more, the new person seemed to be a powerful Star.

Wu Xinxie's chains flashed, their various tips flew towards various crucial points of the array. Seeing the array's light growing dimmer, Gou Zi realised she was breaking the array and quickly called out: "Hurry, kill her!"

Several star cultivators threw out their Artifacts.

An invisible barrier in front of Wu Xinxie completely stopped all the incoming Artifacts. She casually leapt up, her bronze chains riding the momentum and slashing right across their necks, decapitating several star cultivators who couldn't react in time.

Wu Xinxie threw out a series of talismans. The moment they hit the ground, a massive explosion resounded, shattering the earth. The Heavenly Cycle Northern Dipper Array completely broke, its halo of light gradually fading away.

When Gou Zi saw the array break, he felt anguish from the pit of his stomach. Just a bit more and then the Majestic Star would have belonged to him. The moment he noticed Lin Yingmei's chilling

eyes turning towards him, the hair on his entire body stood up. He quietly cursed before turning around and running away.

Luckily, Lin Yingmei did not pursue him. It wasn't because she didn't want to, but she wasn't able to because she had just escaped the array. This array's main use was to absorb the Star Knight's Astral Energy. Now that she had lost seven to eight parts of her energy reserve, there none left to spare.

Only by relying on the Arctic Star Serpent Spear was Lin Yingmei able to stand herself up.

“Lin Chong, can you still fight?” Wu Xinxie asked.

“Did Master tell you to do this?” Lin Yingmei glanced at Wu Xinxie. Her Star Symbol still remained, so at least Shu Jing hadn't thrown her away.

Wu Xinxie shook her head. She laughed and said: “Xinxie thinks you are too lucky. How many have masters that would come to their rescue despite knowing full well the risks? Isn't that just too foolish?”

She turned and looked around the fort.

The blazing red fire lightning was like a nightmarish devil with terrifying fangs. Frenzied winds and harsh rains coupled with devastating lightning and thunder had turned the Grand Border Fortress into a destroyed warzone. With each bolt of lightning that flared up, people's heart grew more and more terrified.

“Master!” Lin Yingmei's heart ached and her lips bled from her gnashing teeth. She gripped the Arctic Star Serpent Spear tightly, wishing to lend a hand.

This was the first time Wu Xinxie had ever seen the Majestic Star so scared.

Truly, what a lucky man.

Wu Xinxie smiled and supported the falling Lin Yingmei. “If you go now like this you will just distract Young Master!”

“This servant... cannot... just stand and watch!” Lin Yingmei gasped. Her entire body was shaking, her eyes filled with worries.

Wu Xinxie looked at Lin Yingmei while in deep thought.

“Do you really wish to help Young Master? I may have something that you can use...”

She took out a single pill. The pill was golden in colour and was decorated with the symbol of a dragon.

“Star Breaker Golden Pill! In a short amount of time, it will help you return to your peak state. However, there is a side effect. When your body surpasses its limit, all the meridians on your body will break. From then on, you will become a cripple with no hope of recovery. Lin Yingmei, do you still dare?” Wu Xinxie slowly explained.

Majestic Star that had swept aside thousands of soldiers since ancient time becoming a useless cripple. She would probably prefer death over such a fate.

Lin Yingmei stood there, stunned.

Wu Xinxie smiled secretly: “Yingmei sis, you only have a few minutes left to decide. Young master is not a match at all for that Nebula Stage cultivator. The only reason he was able to hold on until now was due to some special artifact he had on his body, but I doubt it will last for much longer. If you really want to save him, this is the most straightforward method. Of course, maybe Young Master still have some secret killing move.”

A powerful bolt of lightning raced across the sky. Lin Yingmei could clearly sense that Shu Jing was losing ground. She looked at the Star Breaker Golden Pill and immediately swallowed it without thinking further. A sudden stream of Star Energy surged through her meridians.

Wu Xinxie spoke the truth, this pill was indeed effective.

“If this servant dies in battle, please take care of Master from now on.”

Lin Yingmei coldly left those words behind before turning into a streak of light and flew away.

Wu Xinxie smiled grievingly. She waved her feathered fan and sighed: "I lost. I have completely lost." The scary-sounding side effects she had said about Star Breaker Golden Pill was only to test Lin Yingmei. She never thought that Yingmei would completely ignore her own well-being like that.

Star Knights and Star Masters signed a contract that binds them together and forces them to support each other, but their ultimate goal was still to become the final winner. If they ran into a disadvantageous situation, there had been instances where one would run away on their own. Few were like Shu Jing and Lin Yingmei. One would fearlessly face death, while the other ignore even the possibility of becoming a cripple.

For the past thousand years in Liangshan Continent, this was the first time the Majestic Star had fallen into the trappings of love.

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[Amery: The initial chapters have been heavily re-edited and retranslated in many parts. The process is still ongoing, but most are done. If you read those chapters was confused about something, chances are it should be fixed now. If you don't have the time to go back, I will at least mention what is probably the most important point.

Shu Jing's weapon, the Silver Blade, is actually a [Pistol Sword](#), meaning a gun with a knife/sword attached to it. That explains all the confusing parts earlier when he used it as a close combat weapon. He also shoot using pure Star Energy bullets, not actual bullets, though that will come into play later.]

Silver Blade probably looks something like this



[image]

or this

[image]



108 Maidens of Destiny: Chapter 23 – The Dances of the Three Stars [Preview]

-- NEXT

The Dances of the Three Stars [Preview]

- TL: AmeryEdge
- ED: Istaripanda

Elder Xiu's Heavenly Lightning Earthly Fire Sword shook, its fire lightning continuously strikes down upon the ground. He completely ignored the damage he was causing to the Grand Border Fortress. His greed for Shu Jing's Astral Artifact made Elder Xiu want to kill Shu Jing at any price.

"Let this old man see how much longer you can struggle." Elder Xiu's Divine Intent was completely locked on to Shu Jing. While fighting against a star cultivator with higher cultivation, running had no meaning. The Heavenly Lightning Earthly Fire Sword swung up, releasing a single bolt of red lightning that demolished another area. Everywhere, commoners and soldiers alike were screaming while trying to escape, their pitiful cries echoing.

Shu Jing hid behind a statue to catch his breath. His Star Energy had been quickly drained and the Astral Artifact in his hand slowly dimmed.

Is this my limit?

Shu Jing glanced at Elder Xiu who was standing atop a roof. This Nebula Middle Stage cultivator did not leave Shu Jing any opportunity to run away. Not only was the Heavenly Lightning Earthly Fire Sword was being used all out, a lightning aura of light

was currently surrounding his body, guarding him. He was afraid of Shu Jing getting close to him, and with Shu Jing's current cultivation and Star Energy pool, there was no way for him to get past the Nebula Middle Stage cultivator's defense.

Is there no way out of this?

[PREVIEW END]

-- NEXT

Glossaries

108 MAIDENS OF DESTINY

Characters

苏星 – Su Xing – Shu Jing

108 Maidens of Destiny's main character. Number one pilot of the country transported to another world. His name literally translates to Revival Star.

天雄星 – Majestic Star/ 豹子头 – Panther Head/ 林冲 – Lin

Chong/ 林英眉 – Lin Ying Mei

Shu Jing's first Star Knight. She is the descended incarnation of Lin Chong.

荀或 – Xun Huo

Liu Tang's Star Master, the first antagonist of the series.

天异星 – Deviance Star/ 赤发鬼 – Red-Haired Devil/ 刘唐 – Liu Tang/刘清儿 – Liu Qing-er

Xun Hou's Star Knight. She is the descended incarnation of Liu Tang.

筱儿 – Lil' Er

The nickname of the mysterious Star Knight without a master who lead them to the Relic Blade Legacy. Her nickname literally translates to Little Girl.

天魁星 – Leader Star/ 呼保義 – Protector of Justice/ 宋江 – Song Jiang

The leader of the 108 outlaws in Water Margin.

宋露 – Song Lu

A young village girl who Shu Jing saved from a Blossom Steel Tiger.

金蟾真人 – Golden Toad Spiritual Master

The creator of the Chaotic Tail Escape Technique.

明儿 – Ming-er

That Young Master of Clear Wilderness Castle who was castrated by Lin Chong.

Locations

梁山大陆 – Liangshan Continent

The Liangshan Continent is the place Shu Jing was transported to from Earth.

千乘国 – Thousand Mounts Kingdom

A kingdom in Liangshan Continent.

清野原 – Clear Wilderness Highland

A Highland in Thousand Mounts Kingdom.

坚固山 – Unyielding Wall Mountain

One of Liangshan Continent Five Great Mountains.

女良山地方 – Maiden Liangshan Ground

The place where the ultimate battle will take place.

昆吾遗迹 – Relic Blade Legacy/ Kun Wu Monument

The first legacy Shu Jing encountered at Unyielding Wall mountain.

山水遗迹 – Mountain Lake Legacy

The second legacy located at Mountain Lake Valley.

宋家村 – Song Clan Village

The village Shu Jing resides in to heal his wound.

Weapons

寒星冷月枪 – Cold Star Lonely Moon Spear – Arctic Star Serpent Spear

Lin Ying Mei's weapon. Liberties were taken in the final translation for a shorter/smoothen name. Lin Chong's spear is specifically a serpent spear.

炙炼九狱刀 – Blaze Refining Nine Prison Sabre

Liu Tang's sabre.

Stars Terminology

斗星契约 – Star Duel Covenant

(Possible Alternatives: Star Battle Contract, Star Clash Agreement, Astral Trials Pact)

The contract between Star Masters and Star Knights, linking their fate and strength together.

降星者 – Star Master

The male partner of a Star Maiden.

星将 – Star Knight

Warriors descended from a higher realm.

斗星 – Star Duels

The great battles between Star Knights and their Star Master against each other that happens once every 108 years.

星力 – Star Qi/Star Force

The power Star cultivators call upon.

星力人 – Star Cultivator/Star Force User

Cultivators in the Liangshan Continent.

星少女 – Star Maidens

Another term often used when referring to Star Knights.

星宝 – Star Artifact

Artifacts from a higher realm. More powerful than the most powerful ordinary artifact.

Star Cultivation Realms

星尘 – Stardust

星云 – Nebula

星河 – Galaxy

星海 – (literally Star Ocean) – Stellar/ Supercluster (a cluster of galaxies)

星空 – (literally Star Void or Starry Sky) – Oblivion/ Supervoid (an extremely huge empty void in space)

化星湮灭 – Annihilation/ Transforming Star of Annihilation Beasts

吞精蛟 – Spirit Engulfing Flood Dragon

Strange beasts who absorb all the energy around them.

花金虎 – Blossom Steel Tiger

The colourful and metallic tiger who attacked Song Lu and Shu Jing.

Treasures & Items

寒云冰魄 – Freezing Cloud Ice Crystal

A precious material stolen by Lin Ying Mei from the Clear Wilderness castle.

昆吾砂 – Relic Blade Sand/ Kun Wu Sand

A precious material used to improve the toughness of weapons. Kun Wu is often a reference to the legendary ancient sword capable of slicing through jade stone like it was mud. Liberties were taken for the final English translation.

沉星壁 – Profound Star Barrier

The Star Artifact Shu Jing acquired at the Relic Blade Legacy.

星界宝石 – Astral Gemstone

Gems that came from a higher realm. Used to create storage bags in Liangshan Continent.

Techniques

黄阶战法 – Phoenix Step Tactics

Liu Qing-er's martial art.

九连环地火鬼斩 – Nine Consecutive Hell Fire Demonic Slash

Liu Qing-er's technique from her Phoenix Step Tactics martial art.

烂尾遁功法 – Chaotic Tail Escape Technique

Shu Jing's movement technique.

九转金身不灭决 – Indestructible Nine Revolution Golden Body
Impressively named useless cultivation manual.

**翻江倒海发浪诀 – Overturning Oceans and Rivers Wave
Unleashing Tactics**

Impressively named useless cultivation manual.

灰飞烟灭脑残掌 – Annihilating Brainless Palm

Impressively named useless cultivation manual.

**上天入地唯我独尊功 – From Heaven To Earth Lone Supreme
Manual**

Impressively named useless cultivation manual.

Miscellaneous

星见 – Star Sight

The name of the current calendar – eg. Star Sight Year 975

法器 – Artifact/ Artifact Weapon

Weapons and artifacts used by Star Cultivators. Star Knights are unable to control them.

法诀 – Artifact Arts / Artifact Technique

Techniques used by cultivators.

剑诀 – Sword Arts / Sword Technique

Sword arts used by cultivators.

巨金槐 – Gigantic Iron Trees

The large trees in Unyielding Wall mountain.

完筋散 – Exhaustive Tendon Powder

The medicine used to heal Shu Jing's wounds.

周天循星结界 – Sky Enveloping Star Obeying Formation

The protective formation outside of the Relic Blade Legacy.

Requires three Star Knights to unlock.

赤星 – Crimson Star

The bright 108 crimson stars in the sky representing the 108 Maidens.

宋村秘文 – **Song Village Secrets**

The book Shu Jing found in Song Clan Village

108 MAIDENS OF DESTINY